

EUGENE Weekly

DEC. 4, 2025 • VOL. 44 • NO. 49 | DOG-EARED PAGE FREE EVERY THURSDAY!

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a good local book

WINTER READING

Bricks \$ Mortar PAGE 4

What's Happening Calendar! PAGE 12

WOW-A-Thon II PAGE 16

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OPINION

letters

SLUG AND AMAZON LOVE, AND MORE

Have Money, Do More

I've read too many hand-wringing articles and letters to the editor about the plight of the indigent on our streets. While it's great that there are some churches (who could do much more) or local government agencies trying temporary stopgap programs to right this ship, the programs that are going to really work will have to be comprehensive like the ones in Utah or Portland. And where does all the money come from? Federal government, rich corporations and wealthy donors.

Every state has many mega millionaires who could hopefully be convinced to see the big societal picture: That they could easily do both — fund their favorite sports team, as well as a tax-deductible program to house, educate, sober up and get people spiraling out of control due to their depression off the streets and back into being productive, tax-paying responsible citizens. Win-win.

Isn't that the wealthy's responsibility for doing so well in our capitalistic system? Or do the likes of Phil and Penny Knight even care? Are the trophies that line the halls of the University of Oregon sports complex really more exciting and important? One thing's for sure: Homelessness will not subside with a meal at Thanksgiving or Christmas, a blanket from the Mission and a cold quonset hut.

Annie Kayner
Eugene

Love for SLUG

Thank you, SLUG queen, for standing up in this cultural moment to create change. Yes, small, inconvenient deci-

sions over a lifetime do add up. Acting in a way that takes attention off ourselves and puts the focus on others is what is needed at this time. Acting with love and compassion, especially toward those we do not personally know, is the only thing that can negate the current onslaught of fear and hate.

We can help create a meaningful future by making more loving, thoughtful and selfless decisions.

Christopher and Deb Michaels
Eugene

Amazon Restoration, Thank You!

I want to take a moment of appreciation and acknowledgment to all the folks working on the Amazon Creek restoration project.

It's been wonderful to witness the incredible change of scenery as I bike by each day. Big shoutout to the folks doing all of the digging and moving and trudging through water, now on frigid mornings and even on Saturdays! You're doing an amazing job and the creek area is looking so good! Many thanks!

Sophia MacMillan
Eugene

Wrongful Death Defended

On the frigid night of November 30, 2019, Eliborio Rodrigues, an unarmed, 40-year-old, father of four, was collecting recycling on Acacia Avenue when Eugene Police Officer Samuel Tykol stopped him for jaywalking and looking like he did not belong in that neighborhood. In the four-minute encounter, Tykol employed his own personal method of "Ask, Tell, Make" and forcibly restrained, punched, pepper-sprayed, chased, tackled, tased, and shot Rodrigues three times, killing him. Rodrigues's family filed a wrongful death lawsuit against the City of Eugene.

Only the first two minutes of the encounter were captured on Tykol's body camera (that mysteriously switched off), which shows that Rodrigues calmly exercised his rights, asked to speak to a sergeant 11 times, and questioned the legality of his detention. Instead of de-escalating,

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

SIR, WE GOT BACKED INTO A CORNER ON THE EPSTEIN FILES. WE'RE SWITCHING TO OUR FALLBACK PLAN.

STUPID REPUBLICANS IN CONGRESS! THEY SHOULD BE EXECUTED FOR TREASON!

INDEED THEY SHOULD, SIR.

PAM HAS INITIATED AN INVESTIGATION, WHICH SHOULD ALLOW US TO WITHHOLD ANYTHING WE DEEM, AH, INAPPROPRIATE TO RELEASE.

MMMPPH...SNORT... ZZZZZZ...

SIR? ARE YOU AWAKE?

WHAT? OF COURSE I'M AWAKE! WHO DO YOU THINK I AM, SLEEPY JOE WHATSHISNAME? THE AUTO-PEN GUY?

SORRY, SIR, MY MISTAKE. NOW, AS I WAS SAYING--

--THIS ISSUE ISN'T GOING AWAY. YOU'LL NEED TO BE READY FOR MORE QUESTIONS FROM REPORTERS. I'VE PREPARED A LIST OF POSSIBLE RESPONSES--

REPORTERS? LIKE THAT LITTLE PIGGY ON MY PLANE?

YES SIR, LIKE THAT.

THE SAUDIS KNOW HOW TO DEAL WITH LITTLE PIGGIES--THEY BUTCHER THEM! GOD, I WISH WE HAD A COUNTRY LIKE...THAT...

WE'RE DEFINITELY WORKING ON IT SIR, BUT PLEASE DON'T SAY THAT OUT LOUD IN PUBLIC.

SIR?

YOU! WHATEVER YOUR NAME IS, I NEED SOME NEW POLL NUMBERS SHOWING THAT HE'S THE MOST POPULAR PRESIDENT IN HISTORY-- BEFORE HE WAKES UP!

RIGHT AWAY, MR. MILLER, SIR! JUST GIVE ME A FEW MINUTES WITH CHAT GPT.

ZZZZZZZ

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Tykol retaliated — what the jury heard described as “contempt of cop.” Such retaliatory enforcement is illegal and erodes public trust.

After a seven-day trial, the eight-person jury shockingly found that Rodrigues was slightly more at fault for his own death than the cop who shot him, leaving his children with no recompense.

The split-blame verdict reveals a deeper problem: because Eugene is self-insured, it has a perverse incentive to zealously defend employees who kill, at all costs. Where a private insurance company would consider settlement, Eugene always chooses costly litigation, draining public resources and

denying victims’ families any justice or restitution.

Eugene must end this perverse incentive and dehumanizing cycle now.

Nate Mitchell
Eugene

Sustained Help for the Homeless

The chronically unhoused, those who have lived on the street for at least a year, if not decades, are people who generally have no or very low incomes, making it difficult for them to qualify for even very-low-income housing.

Project Stability hopes to meet this

challenge by:

1) Obtaining land, held in trust by the board, then supporting unhoused individuals in designing and building their own net-zero energy, maximally solar-powered, 400- to 600-square-foot homes in self-sustaining, self-governed villages.

2) Addressing health, well-being and climate change by each village being a regenerative agriculture urban community, with maximum numbers of trees, shrubs, tall grasses, steppable ground cover and food-growing beds planted in cover crops in the fall-winter months, all with no-till, no-plow organic gardening methods.

3) Starting businesses to employ resi-

dents to assist them in covering the costs incurred with housing and in learning job skills for employment within the larger community.

4) Trauma healing: We hope eventually to bring in trauma-informed therapists for those who wish to heal their past trauma. We believe this approach will assist chronically unhoused people to become stabilized in housing and work and become contributing members of society.

Sylvia Gregory
Eugene

Editor’s Note: More information about Project Stability in Eugene is at [Facebook.com/projectstabilityoregon](https://facebook.com/projectstabilityoregon).

Local & Vocal

Viewpoint by Thomas Coffin

THE EXTRAJUDICIAL PRESIDENT

Bloodbath in international waters sends troubling message

A disturbing trend has afflicted many within our constitutional government under our current president — that its foundation is purportedly the rule of law, but its actions are increasingly failing to meet the test of being lawful.

For example, the president has been ordering the Navy to destroy boats from other nations in international waters, murdering nearly all their crew members, based on the assumption that they are transporting illegal drugs to our shores, without demonstrating any evidence whatsoever that such is indeed their cargo.

According to news sources, retired Adm. James Stavridis and other military experts say the force sent to the Caribbean was far greater than needed to dispatch the speedboats and other watercraft allegedly carrying drugs to North American shores. Rather, such force points instead to apply-

ing pressure on the leader of Venezuela.

Where is the evidence regarding the drugs? More disturbing, why did our military kill almost everyone on the boats carrying drugs — assuming that was the cargo — instead of arresting them?

This is the most troubling aspect of the matter. The armada on the scene clearly had the firepower and personnel to easily seize the boats and occupants therein rather than slaying them (the most recent count exceeds 80 fatalities.) Was that degree of force needed?

The press reports that one person survived and was returned to his country. Why? Was he a minor? Were there others? Does anyone know?

We should know; “We the people” deserve the truth. That is why we have a Constitution, attorneys, courts, presumption of innocence, and trials by jurors. That is the premise of the rule of law. But will it survive this era with this president?

The bloodbath on the seas sends a troubling message. The Navy could have arrested the crews and the U.S. tried them if they indeed were smuggling drugs, but instead the death penalty was imposed — in inter-

national waters — without any evidence or due process. Indeed, such actions may well be violations of international law in that they occur on vessels in international waters. And I fear that among other impacts, such will establish a precedent for the future.

What is most puzzling is that one crewman who survived an explosive attack was picked by the U.S. military, but instead of being arrested, he was returned to his home country. Why? He would have been “evidence” regarding the alleged drugs on the boat and its destination. To put it mildly, it is difficult from a legal perspective to understand why this sailor was not held for interrogation and then prosecuted if he was part of a sophisticated sea-based plan to drop narcotics onto our shores.

Two other crewmen who survived another attack died after Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth ordered a second missile strike to kill them as they floated in the water near the wreckage of their boat, *The Washington Post* reported Nov. 28. “The order was to kill everybody,” a source told the newspaper.

Do these actions — killing those allegedly delivering drugs to our shores rather than arresting them, evaluating the evidence, and

charging them if appropriate — signal the increasing use of an extrajudicial tactic by our president? At present, he is using deadly force on drug suspects in boats instead of prosecuting them. This is the opposite of virtually all other examples of non-boat criminal cases.

In other words, at sea, the U.S. military now behaves as if the suspect is presumed guilty and executed immediately. In the United States, on land, the suspect is presumed innocent and gets a jury trial.

As we all know, the president has been ordering the National Guard to occupy select cities, ostensibly in order to reduce crime. In addition, federal police from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Customs and Border Patrol and the Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Protective Service have been seen in many more cities assisting in the arrest and detention of undocumented immigrants — and legal immigrants and even U.S. citizens as well.

Will the president order them to give landlubbers the same treatment as the suspects on ships? What’s the difference?

Thomas Coffin is a retired federal magistrate judge for the U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon and a former professor at the University of Oregon law school. Prior to his 24 years on the bench, he had a 21-year career as a federal prosecutor. Find more of his essays via *Cottage Grove’s The Blackberry Pie Society*.



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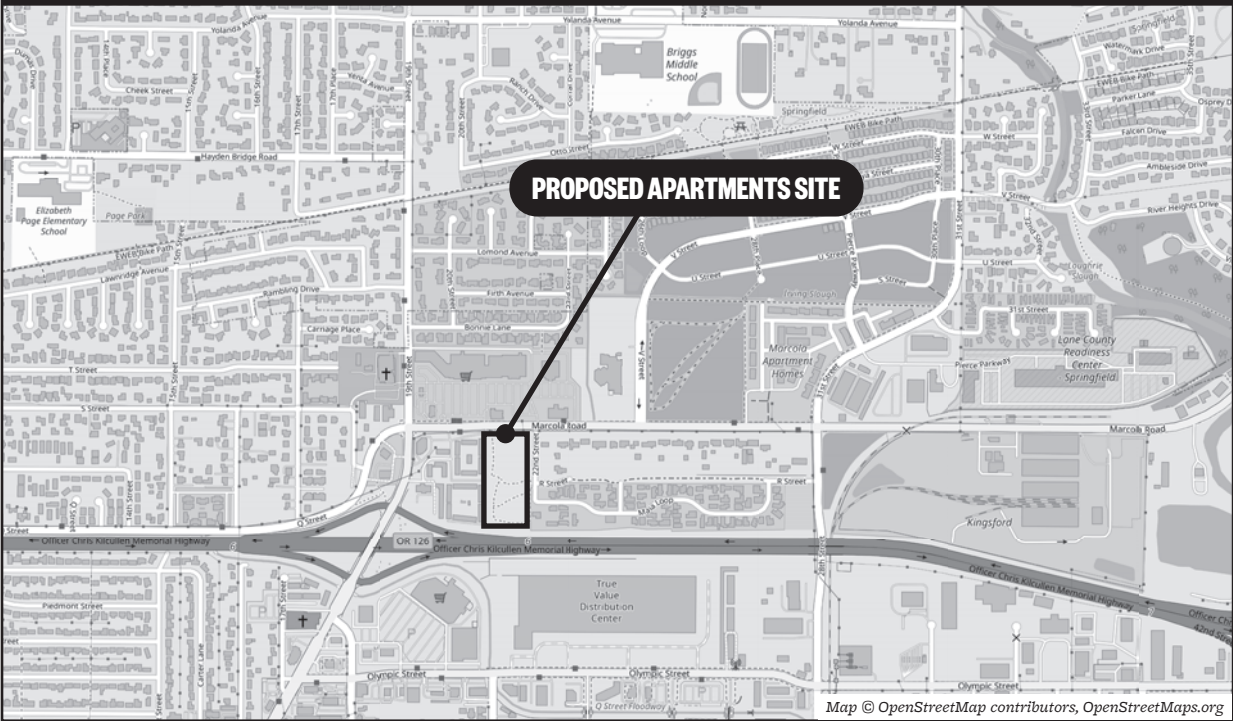
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Bricks \$ Mortar

BY CHRISTIAN WIHTOL



SPRINGFIELD GETS SOME RESPECT

Experienced Eugene apartment developer looks to the east

In the past couple of decades, Eugene developer Dan Neal has built stylish apartment and senior-living complexes around the state, from Eugene to Portland, Bend, Roseburg and the Medford area.

But never in Springfield, which sits just three miles from his Pearl Street office.

That may soon change.

Neal has submitted plans to the city to build a 128-unit apartment complex on four acres that his development group recently acquired near the Interstate 105-Mohawk Boulevard interchange.

Neal isn't certain he'll proceed, and says the cost, rents, and timetable are to be determined. The plans show a cluster of two- and three-story buildings that Neal says would have one- and two-bedroom apartments.

"In the current market, many projects are being shelved due to the high cost of funds and the high cost of labor and materials. Certainly, we are concerned about whether the project ... will pencil," Neal tells Eugene Weekly.

LACK OF RENTALS

The project, which would front Marcola Road, would help Springfield's excruciatingly tight apartment supply. Apartment developers have mostly shied away from the city in recent years. In the past 10 years, there were five years when the city issued, on average, permits for just three apartment units per year, according to data from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development. The city estimates its rental vacancy rate at 2.1 percent, far short of the "healthy" 5 percent rate the city hopes for.

Neal, who does business as Paradigm Properties, says Springfield needs the project.

"The city is trying hard to address their housing shortage. We want to help," he says.

Neal says he isn't seeking any special city assistance. The complex would have market-rate rents, he says.

The site's a big field with a half-dozen large trees. The longtime owner, a Springfield investor, sold it in 2022 for \$2.2 million to an entity controlled by Justin Thomas of Junction City, the deed shows. Thomas is CEO of Junction City-based G&D Chillers, a major employer that builds chillers for brewers, wineries

and other businesses.

In 2024, Thomas transferred ownership of the Springfield land to a Paradigm entity and became a partner in the apartment project.

WELL-KNOWN IN EUGENE

In Eugene, Neal's work is familiar to many. He built student housing well before the wave of big-box mega-projects being built for students by out-of-state developers. Neal's work in the city includes The Prefontaine on University Street, The Patterson on Patterson Street, and The Pearl on Pearl Street. Each has an individualized, varied exterior with a snappy, angular, colorful Pacific Northwest look.

The Springfield project will be "distinctive and stylish," Neal says. It will have "plenty of open space along with a nice community building and other amenities."

Springfield's been a tale of two cities when it comes to residential construction.

In its long-term growth plans, the city designated plenty of acreage for single-family homes. Developers and home-buyers responded. From 2020 to August of this year, the city issued permits for 1,042 single-family homes, federal data show. New single-family subdivisions now blanket the city's fringes.

But in that same period, the city issued permits for only 368 apartment units. Most of that was for a single recent project, Marcola Apartment Homes.

In Springfield, finding "sites large enough and with appropriate zoning for multi-family housing is challenging," says Neal.

Marcola Apartment Homes, totalling 312 apartments on 11 acres, was built by Wilsonville-based I&E Construction. It's a half-mile east of Paradigm's site and was completed in 2024 and this year.

The rents there are spendy. A one-bedroom 730-square-foot unit starts at \$1,500 a month, says the project's website. But new construction helps loosen up the market, economists say. They call the process "filtering." Higher-income renters tend to be the ones moving into new units. That frees up older, less-expensive apartments, and dampens rent increases, says a 2024 study by the Reserve Bank of Minneapolis.

"Owners and managers of older properties are well aware that new

supply entering a market creates new opportunities for their renters to move up," the study says.

'The city is trying hard to address their housing shortage. We want to help.'

— DAN NEAL, DEVELOPER

Bricks \$ Mortar is a column anchored by Christian Wihtol, who worked as an editor and writer at The Register-Guard in Eugene 1990-2018, much of the time focused on real estate, economic development and business. Reach him at Christian@EugeneWeekly.com.

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>> Gavin McComas of Sundance Natural Foods died Nov. 25,

surrounded by close friends and family, the community food store announced. In addition to providing Eugene with a healthy, quirky and fun place to shop, he made sure that the community resource that is Sundance “would carry on beyond his passing by donating Sundance to a Perpetual Purpose Trust, which will ensure Sundance’s continued presence in our community for the foreseeable future.”

>> This week in news of the weird

is former *Lookout Eugene-Springfield* columnist Mark Baker, who, according to Eugene police, allegedly committed assault in October during an altercation over dog poop. Baker was a longtime writer for *The Register-Guard* (he is part of the Baker family that owned the *RG* until 2018) and, most recently, wrote a column for digital startup and *RG* competitor *LOL*. Baker is known for his interviews with luminaries such as Sam Elliott and, most recently, his sports columns. His most recent *LOL* column ran Oct. 5. On Oct. 9, according to court records, police cited Baker, 63, for assault, second-degree criminal mischief and harassment. According to an EPD statement, Baker was arrested after he was “suspected of instigating a physical altercation with two people (punching one, and damaging property) when he was walking his dog and was confronted about not picking up after the dog defecated on the lawn of Churchill Estates.” Churchill Estates is a retirement community in southwest Eugene, not far from Baker’s home. Baker disappeared from *LOL*’s masthead without explanation shortly after reports of the incident surfaced on social media. Baker did not respond to *EW*’s request for comment.

>> Will the Lane County Board of Commissioners make garbage hauler Sanipac pay a price for its hardball political tactics? As *EW* first reported in April, Sanipac and an affiliated company, EcoSort, want to kill a proposed Lane County trash recovery center, called CleanLane, that promises to reduce the flow of garbage into the county’s Short Mountain Landfill and cut emissions of methane, a potent greenhouse gas. Sanipac and EcoSort lost their bid to operate the CleanLane project. After that, both companies started diverting trash from Short Mountain to a landfill in southern Oregon run by EcoSort’s and Sanipac’s corporate owner, rubbish conglomerate Waste Connections, Inc. (Waste Connections collected \$8.9 billion in revenues last year.) Sanipac’s actions risk cutting the trash flow needed to make the CleanLane project viable. The haulers’ actions also threaten to shift costs onto Lane County residents. County records show the trash diversions by Sanipac and EcoSort have cost Lane County \$5 million a year in lost landfill tipping fees. That’s money Eugene and Springfield residents might be forced to make up through higher trash bills. As it turns out, though, Lane County has the power to recoup some of that money. County rules require haulers to pay hefty fees when they collect trash in Lane County and then haul it elsewhere. Sources tell *EW* that Sanipac and EcoSort have ducked paying the fees so far. Commissioners have scheduled a Dec. 9 hearing to make public Sanipac’s tactics — and perhaps take the first steps toward forcing the trash hauler to pay up.

>> We were overwhelmed with the response to our request for authors to review! We were so excited that we decided it’s time for a *Eugene Weekly* books column for literary updates each month. Rick Levin, a longtime *EW* writer and local author, will helm the column and can be reached at Books@EugeneWeekly.com. We will also put short reviews here in Slant!

>> Local author! Eugene writer Elizabeth Engstrom has long been a master of creepy horror. *Unrequited Loss* (IFD Press, \$11) is a collection of her short stories that are guaranteed to make it hard to sleep after an evening of reading. Consider the first sentence of “Anything,” setting you up for an unexpected ending: “Marty drove around with the dead baby in his trunk for three days before he decided on a course of action.” Need we say more? Enjoy at your own peril.

ICE BOX

According to the Portland Immigrant Rights Commission’s Dec. 1 update, 67 detentions were reported to the hotline from Nov. 24 to 30. The total reported detentions in Oregon for November is 373, and 26 of those were in Lane County and 41 in Marion County. PIRC’s hotline is 1-888-622-1510, and the immigrant rights group asks you to call if you witness ICE activity or an ICE detention, or if you are looking for a missing loved one. Text with non-urgent questions or photos of possible ICE sightings, such as license plates (call first if urgent). **Locally, join the Lane County Immigrant Defense Signal** group for updates and mobilizations at [Linktr.ee/psleugene](https://linktr.ee/psleugene) during ICE activity.

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ACTIVIST ALERT

PROTESTS, ACTIVISM AND MORE AROUND LANE COUNTY

BY CAMILLA MORTENSEN

"It is my aspiration that health finally will be seen not as a blessing to be wished for, but as a human right to be fought for."

— Kofi Annan,
United Nations secretary general

Upcoming Protests, Rallies, Marches, Talks, Gatherings and More

• **Know-Your-Rights Training for Schools to Stay Safe from ICE**, 10 am to 2 pm, Saturday, Dec. 6, at University of Oregon. In partnership with LULAC and the Oregon for All Network, learn practical skills and concrete tools for preventing, responding to and supporting communities impacted by potential ICE activity near schools. Register at [Secure.ngpvan.com/esqtD5hCZkGcOi6LPj0CYQ2](https://secure.ngpvan.com/esqtD5hCZkGcOi6LPj0CYQ2).

>> **Say NO to a Mega Amazon Distribution Center in Eugene**, 7:30 pm, Dec. 8, Eugene City Council Meeting, City Hall north building. "Stand against what will harm our air, roads and local jobs. Don't let Bezos exploit our fair city. Say No!"

• **Partners, documentary on Starbucks workers in Buffalo rekindling the labor movement**, 6:30 pm, Tuesday, Dec. 9, Art House, 492 East 13th, Q&A with striking local Eugene-Springfield Starbucks workers. Donations support Starbucks Workers United's strike fund.

Ongoing events – Check for holiday changes!

>> **Resist! Persist! Repeat! Weekly Protest**, 10 am to 11 am, Mondays, corners of 29th and Willamette Street and 11 am to noon, Mondays, corner of Coburg and Harlow roads.

>> **Protest ICE: Last Tuesday Mobilization Response**, 10 am on the last Tuesday of each month, ICE office, 211 East 7th Avenue. More info at [Linktr.ee/psleugene](https://linktr.ee/psleugene). Be available for rapid response if there is an arrest via [Tinyurl.com/ImmigrantDefenseSignal](https://tinyurl.com/ImmigrantDefenseSignal).

>> **Singing for our Lives**, noon, Tuesdays, 7th and Pearl, the BeLonging Space and Interfaith Alliance with Migrants.

>> **Silent Protest to Support Our Immigrant Neighbors**, 1 pm Tuesdays, ICE office, 7th and Pearl. Signs provided, wear white or black. Indivisible Eugene/Springfield.

>> **Weekly Vigils Against the Genocide in Gaza and Against ICE**, 3 pm, Wednesdays, Planet Versus Pentagon, old federal building, corner of 7th & Pearl.

>> **Sister District Postcarding**, 6 pm to 10 pm, Wednesdays, Claim 52 Brewing, 232 Lincoln Street.

>> **Weekly Get-Out-the-Vote Postcarding**, resumes Thursday, Jan. 8 for the 2026 midterm elections. For one info Pandi96743@yahoo.com.

>> **Stop the Cuts**, noon Fridays, Eugene Veterans Clinic, 3355 Chad Drive.

>> **Stand in Solidarity with Food Not Bombs Feeding the Community**, 4 pm Fridays, Food Not Bombs, Downtown Park Blocks, 8th and Oak, [Instagram.com/foodnotbombs_eugene](https://instagram.com/foodnotbombs_eugene).

>> **Protest Trump's Attacks on Immigrants**, noon to 3 pm Fridays and Saturdays, in front of the Creswell AM/PM on Oregon Avenue, Creswell SALT (Standing Against Local Tyranny).

Email Editor@EugeneWeekly.com with "Activist Alert" in the subject line to add protests to this listing, and subscribe to the Activist Alert newsletter at EugeneWeekly.com/newsletter to get this information in your inbox on Wednesdays!

NEWS

HOUSING IN THE HIGH DESERT

Exploring solutions for affordable housing in Central Oregon while creating a new definition of home

BY MAYA MCLEROY

Bend, Oregon, holds worlds of contradictions. Both forested and volcanic, it's a town where locals float the Deschutes like a lazy river in the summertime and hit the slopes during winter. Tourists come for the resort-like down-to-earth atmosphere, and yet Bend has also been described as "poverty with a view." As a Zoom town with remote workers and a competitive real estate market, it is becoming increasingly difficult to make a home in this city.

Jonathan Bach knows this tension well — he spent his high school years near Bend and the University of Oregon grad is now a reporter at *The Oregonian* on a housing beat.

Pulling back the curtain on issues real people are facing as they try to build a home of this Patagonia-clad city, his book, *High Desert, Higher Costs: Bend and the Housing Crisis in the American West*, was shortlisted for the Association of Business Journalists 2025 Best in Business Book Awards.

There are so many layers to affordable housing, and you're working through a lot of layers through the storytelling itself. What was your initial thread you pulled at that piqued your interest in writing this story, and how did you keep everything organized while you were writing it?

I was encouraged by Peter Laufer, one of my professors, to thread some personal narratives through the book. I was initially a little resistant to that, because you know, as journalists, we are taught to write in the third person, not to insert ourselves into the story. And yet, I had sort of a wealth of experience, moving from Montana to Mississippi to Arizona and California, before [my family] settled in the Central Oregon area. And so I did a lot of filing through the archives of my brain to pull out some narrative strings that would be not just interesting, but were germane to the story I was trying to tell, which is about housing. And then much of the rest of the book is more traditional interviews, records, and investigative techniques that bolster the reporting.

Were there any housing solutions you came across that seemed especially promising to you?

I think the idea of the book was to interrogate what people are trying to do to fix our housing crunch, and there were a few solutions I wanted to delve into — from the idea that we need to build more townhomes and duplexes, to other ideas that folks don't often think of, like community land trusts. In the school of solutions journalism, this is not an advocacy book. I'm not advocating for any of these policies. It's about investigating what parts of them work, and what parts of them don't.

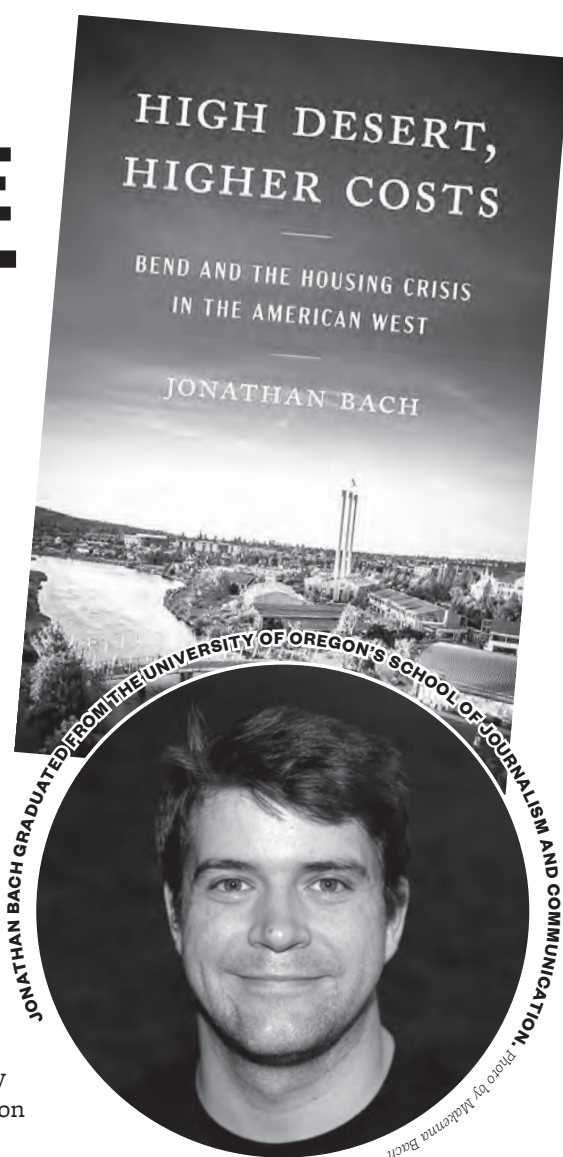
You structure this story around different people's experiences living in Bend, and I found myself invested in their stories, especially Greg Delgado's, a community organizer who was evicted during the pandemic. How did you build trust with your subjects?

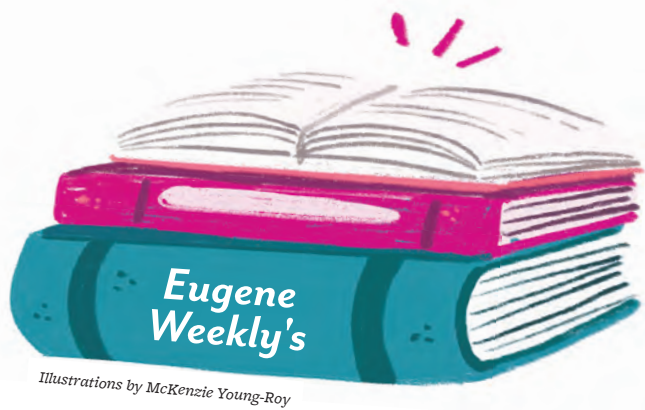
This is a book about housing, that's not about housing. It's about haves and have-nots. One of the chapters is all about who can afford to stay in a place versus who can't. I got people to open up to me by spending time with them. In Delgado's case, I didn't publish anything about our interviews for years. I first met him in 2021, and this book didn't come out until 2025. One of the joys for me of this book was that there was no daily deadline or pressure to file a story, and that's a really big reason I wanted to write this book. To have time to tell a long story. These people stuck with it for years and allowed me into their lives and showed immense patience as I asked a lot of questions.

Would you say writing this book further complicated or simplified your definition of "home?"

My instincts say that it simplifies my definition of home. I moved more than a dozen times before I was an adult, and many of those moves were before I was in high school. I have a very complicated relationship with the idea of home, and yet, writing this book and talking with folks who equally just want that sense of community... That's what home boils down to is a sense of community. I think that's how I would define it today.

High Desert, Higher Costs: Bend and the Housing Crisis in the American West, Oregon State University Press, \$24.95. Maya McLeroy is a fourth-year journalism major at the University of Oregon's Clark Honors College, where she is writing her thesis on root systems and growing up.





Illustrations by McKenzie Young-Roy

WINTER READING

Book nerds, unite!

By Camilla Mortensen

Ursula Le Guin, Ken Kesey, Beverly Cleary, Cheryl Strayed, Barry Lopez, William Stafford, Chuck Palahniuk ... Oregon is and has been home to literary luminaries, and the same goes for Lane County. And in turbulent political times like these, we're reading to get away from it all and reading to keep up with it all.

Want to meet a local author? Read about the Authors & Artists Fair bringing 52 authors to Eugene on Saturday, Dec. 13, at the Lane Events Center — we have the full list at EugeneWeekly.com, including novelist Miriam Gershow, journalist and essayist Melissa Hart and comedian Leigh Anne Jasheway.

A little earlier in the month and a little further up the road in Salem on Sunday, Dec. 7, you can check out 65 authors at “Holiday Cheer: A Celebration of Oregon Authors” at the Oregon Historical Society, featuring Oregon Secretary of State Tobias Read, journalist and podcaster Leah Sottile and Steve Prefontaine biographer — and former *The Register-Guard* writer — Brendan O'Meara.

We are book nerds here at *Eugene Weekly*, and asked for local authors and writers to send us their books and their reviews — and they did. We are now awash in a delightful pile of local and regional literature.

We are also print nerds here at your local “commie rag,” we plan to have short reviews in print in our Slant column for weeks to come — and watch for our newly launching books column!

Got a book, got a review? Books@EugeneWeekly.com and thanks for nerding out with us!

For the full list of authors at Holiday Cheer, go to OHS.org/holidaycheer. For more on Authors & Artists Fair read the story at EugeneWeekly.com.

Kaleidoscopic Narrative

The Apoptotic Era by Andy Valentine

— just read it By Rick Levin

If there is any justice in the literary universe, Andy Valentine's debut novella, *The Apoptotic Era*, will become the sort of slender, dog-eared volume that ends up being passed knowingly from friend to friend, with a wink and a nod, and should the recipient dare to ask, “But what's it about?” the answer will always be: “Just read it.” It's that good.

I'll confess, I've known Andy for quite a while — we worked together on this newspaper, and founded a writers group together — and he's one of the best writers I know, but even his considerable talents could not have prepared me for this book. *The Apoptotic Era* somehow transcends its own minimalism, achieving a vibrancy, a significance, that is at once sublime and grotesque, heady and mystical, and entirely mesmerizing.

So, yes, what is it about? Outwardly, the book details the dark, subterranean history of an obscure academic text about auto-cannibalization — you know, like eating your own hand — from its complicated publication to its immediate reception in the world and beyond.

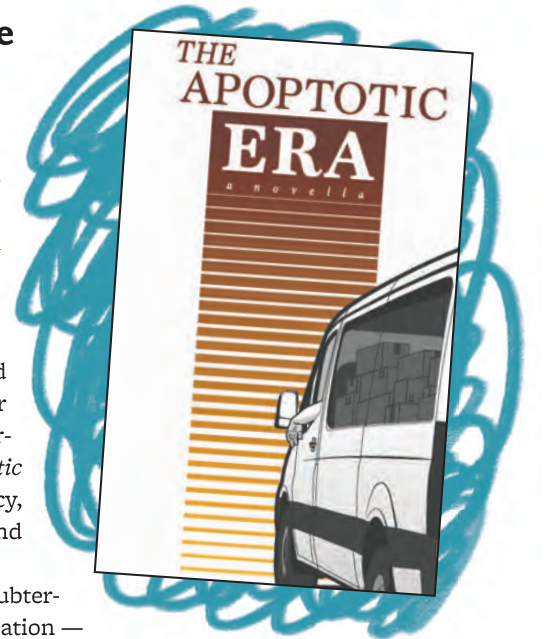
Upon its release, the book is mostly reviled and repudiated, though it does find life as a cultish object burrowing its way into a series of bizarre and interwoven plot lines that span the globe.

Moving forward and back in time, Valentine deftly constructs his kaleidoscopic narrative, shuffling personal histories and political undercurrents in such a manner that the overall effect feels vaguely apocalyptic, uncomfortably futuristic, damningly now. The results are mesmerizing, confounding, hilarious and often deeply moving — a kind of giddy Swiftian satire blending magical realism with a gritty, vulgar naturalism to produce a literary artifact that cuts to the heart of our modern malaise, in which it appears that we are determined to, you'll pardon the pun, eat ourselves alive.

Comparisons abound — Paul Thomas Anderson's film *Magnolia* comes to mind, as do the literary works of J.G. Ballard, Pynchon, Kafka and certainly the surreal genius of Borges — but these only tangentially capture the totality of what Valentine accomplishes in *The Apoptotic Era*.

It's as though he's invented a genre unto itself, and it works beautifully. The writing is exquisite, and the vernacular he conjures for this strange speculative history — a mash-up of high and low, analytic and slapstick, thriller and dystopian shout — is perfectly calibrated to the madness of our times. It all goes down so easily, a cocktail of funny-not-funny and not-funny funny, with a dose of bemused absurdity on top.

The Apoptotic Era, Thirty West, \$14.99 find it locally at Hodgepodge Books and Taproom and Black Sun Books. Rick Levin is Eugene Weekly's books columnist, reach him at Books@EugeneWeekly.com.



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WINTER READING

Cool and Hot

Q&A with celebrated PNW writer Debra Gwartney

By Nicole Dahmen

When *Eugene Weekly* gave me the chance to do a piece for this year's Winter Reading issue, I knew exactly whom I wanted to talk to. From memoirist Debra Gwartney I've learned two critical things: to have compassion for myself as a mother, and to "write cool when the action is hot."

Debra Gwartney is the author of numerous acclaimed essays and two book-length memoirs, *Live Through This*, a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award, and *I Am a Stranger Here Myself*, winner of the RiverTeeth Nonfiction Prize and the Willa Award for Nonfiction.

Gwartney is a contributing editor for *Poets & Writers* and is co-editor, with her late husband Barry Lopez, of *Home Ground: Language for an American Landscape*.

"Fire and Ice," an essay about Lopez's death and the Holiday Farm Fire, was selected for *Best American Essays* and won a Pushcart Prize. She's a former editor of *Eugene Weekly* and has reported for publications including *The Oregonian* and *Newsweek*. Gwartney has also taught reporting and writing at the University of Oregon, Portland State University and Pacific University. She lives in western Oregon.

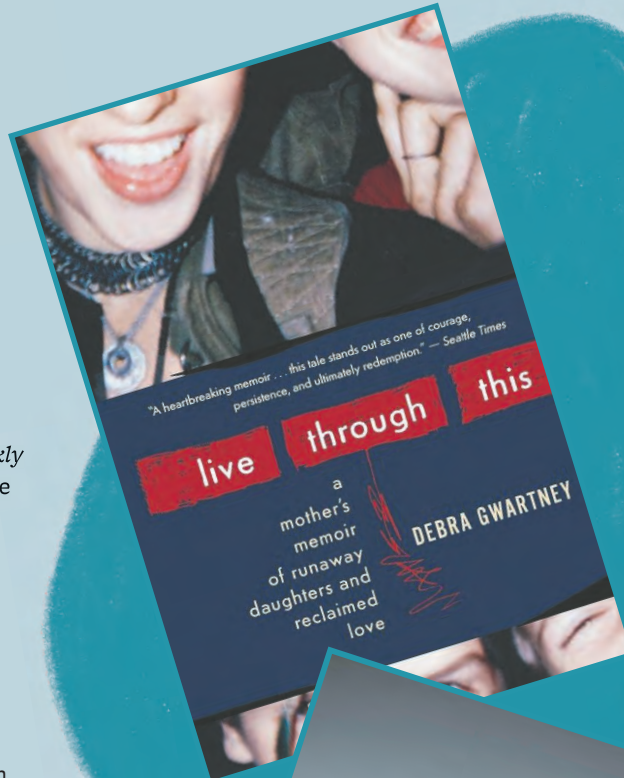
We recently sat down to discuss writing. Our conversation has been edited for length and clarity.

In *Live Through This* (a gripping memoir about motherhood), you write, "sometimes the past simply refuses to be finished." This line deeply resonated with me. How do we cope with the pains of a past that won't stop haunting us?

I looked at how many mothers have gone through trauma with their teenagers, and I thought, "Why is my story one that should step up?" I remembered then what Patricia Hampl says to writers in "Memory and Imagination," which is that if you don't tell your story of this time, of this place, of these people, then someone else is going to tell it. And if you are called to do so, then you have to find a way. When I was struggling with the structure of my second book, Barry said to me, "If it calls you back, then you know that you need to keep going." That's part of living with the past. People have different ways of expressing themselves — art, dance, etc. My way is to write.

You've written memoirs and essays about deeply painful experiences in your life. Research shows that writing can help to heal the emotional trauma of our lives. Has this been your experience? And if so, how?

Catharsis is not my central aim in writing personal narrative. I am interested in making art, if I can, from my life experiences. I challenge myself to be self-curious rather than defensive. What I've come to understand is the divide between the narrator and the character — in memoir, the character doesn't change, the narrator changes. It's the person looking back saying, "Oh, wait a minute, I've let myself hide behind my own self-delusions for a long time." And if I can step out from there, I'm going to discover the narrative. As one of my teachers reminded me, the goal of all memoir is self-awareness.





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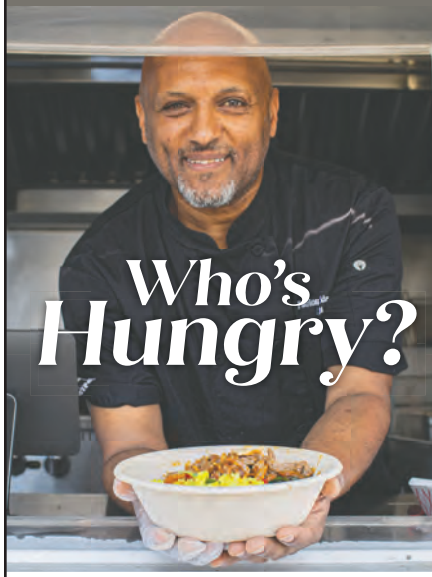
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WINTER READING

So how, then, does your narrator change in *Live Through This*?

She realizes that her children are not an extension of her — that they get to be their own people. I had expectations of them and myself and of what a family looks like. Releasing us from that helped me get to the point where I understood I can't mold them into being the people I think they should be. They have to be themselves.

In a craft talk for Tin House, an independent press in Portland, you suggest, "When the action is hot, write cool." What does this look like in practice?

When something is traumatic, your job as a writer is not to insist the reader feel a certain way, but to make room for the reader's own emotional response. So first, I address language and sentence structure. We put words like very and always and never in our writing, and there's rarely a reason to use such extreme language. Once you start pulling those out, it cleans up the prose. I find that layers of adverbs and adjectives used to create emotional resonance often do exactly the opposite. I am drawn to uncluttered sentences and images that ring with clarity, to writing that doesn't overdo the tugging of heartstrings.

For instance, there's an essay in Short Reads called "Happy Birthday" by Nicholas Dighiera that I use in writing workshops. By the end, you're falling apart because it's beautiful, but he does not over-emote, and he doesn't blame. He tells his story honestly, with vulnerability. He gives readers room to step in and feel for ourselves.

How do you think of "truth" in memoir?

In *This Boy's Life*, Tobias Wolff writes, "Memory has its own story to tell." I have an essay coming out in *The Sun* in a couple months that was a hard story for me to write. It's about something from my childhood that I've never revealed. I've thought a lot about the idea of "truth" while writing it. Others might say the incident didn't happen in the way I recall. But with memoir, the story isn't about what you remember as much as why that memory still has its hooks in you. And so I decided to dig into that. I wrote many drafts, and I kept asking myself, "What is it that I need to face about this experience?" I had a teacher who suggested that at the top of every page, you write: "What remains unsolved in me?" I think that's how you get to authenticity in personal narrative.

You've also worked as a reporter and were editor of *Eugene Weekly* 30 years ago. What did you like about being the editor of an alternative weekly?

While in graduate school at the University of Arizona, I had an opportunity to work for the *Tucson Weekly*, which was a fabulous paper, and I developed an admiration for alternative news. Editing *Eugene Weekly* gave me permission to strike out on stories that no other publication would dare touch.

As a writing teacher, what suggestions do you have for people who are just getting started crafting a memoir?

Read as much as possible. One exercise I suggest is to take a personal essay and three highlighters, and highlight in one color the "narrator," one color the "character," and in one color the "backstory." This can show you how those three elements co-exist: the reflective narrator, the character who's in the action, and then the exposition that holds it together.

I'm a huge believer in scenes, which are narrative building blocks. I think scenes are the way to go because then you're putting yourself in the moment and asking the reader to step in and then build from there. Scenes also train you to remember that this type of writing must be done in increments. I often suggest writing three or four scenes. Don't yet ask yourself how they're related. Somewhere deep in your psyche, you know they're related, but it's too soon to ask yourself to explain. So simply write the scenes and then just live with them for a while and think, "Where's the through line? What am I trying to do here?" It's easy to give up, but it's so important not to. I support women writing their memoirs because they've been told forever that their versions aren't important. But they absolutely matter so much.

AUTHOR DEBRA GWARTNEY IS A TWO-TIME WINNER OF THE PUSHCART PRIZE. COURTESY DEBRA GWARTNEY



DEBRA GWARTNEY'S LIST OF MUST-READ MEMOIRS:

- *The Sisters Antipodes* by Jane Alison
- *Mothers and Other Fictional Characters* by Nicole Graev Lipson
- *Borrowed Finery* by Paula Fox
- *Stay True* by Hua Hsu
- *Fierce Attachments* by Vivian Gornick
- *Fun Home* by Alison Bechdel
- *Let's Don't Go to the Dogs Tonight* by Alexandra Fuller
- *Boys of My Youth* by Jo Ann Beard
- *Love and Trouble* by Claire Dederer
- *The Bill From My Father* by Bernard Cooper
- *Out There in the Dark* by Katharine Coldiron

Nicole Dahmen is a professor at the University of Oregon's School of Journalism and Communication and the Clark Honors College.

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WINTER READING

CH-UT-ZP-AH

Sen. Ron Wyden's book *It Takes Chutzpah* won't work unless you use it

By Grace Mangali

At 6'4, all in the legs, Sen. Ron Wyden's dream seat is not in the cushy chairs of a congressional meeting or in the Senate chamber, but in seat 17C flying Alaska Airlines.

In 17C, Wyden wrote a majority of his book, *It Takes Chutzpah: How to Fight Fearlessly for Progressive Change*, published earlier this year. The book is a blend of memoir and guide of how to accomplish goals through — get this — chutzpah.

Wyden wanted this book to be anything but the formulaic senator book, saying, “Look what I’ve done, everyone wants me to run for president and visit my website.” But, at 76, he did want to write about where he’s been and where he’s going.

Excluding ego, it all came down to chutzpah.

“I think this is a unique time and there’s a chance if you pick your passion and drill down and act, you can make a big difference, no matter what field you are and where you’re doing it,” Wyden says.

Chutzpah, a Yiddish word loosely translating to self-confidence, really refers to using one’s skills for social justice, public service and eradicating idolatry, he says.

Some hits from “Ron’s 12 Rules of Chutzpah” include “1. If you want to make change, you’ve got to make noise” and “7. Ideas are the seeds of change; find them and plant them wherever and whenever you can.”

Wyden’s book is dedicated to his mother, Edith Wyden, and all the unrecognized Jewish women who helped people flee the Holocaust. Women like his mother and aunt were integral in convincing the men in Berlin to flee, he says. During the



RON WYDEN WAS FIRST ELECTED TO THE U.S. SENATE IN 1996.
Photo by Todd Cooper

war, Wyden’s father made propaganda pamphlets and later worked as a journalist.

Edith Wyden’s life and role as a hero to her son points out a distinction in politics crucial to Wyden’s process: playing the long game.

Initially looking into mifepristone, also known as the abortion pill, in the 1990s, Wyden says he didn’t understand what access to the drug meant to freedom. “I had a chance to work with women who were taking a long view, and I really admire that,” he says. He continued to fight for the acceptance and access of mifepristone since its approval from the FDA in 2000.

This past October, Wyden proposed and passed a resolution to end Trump’s tariffs, as the bulk of effects are on working-class families and organizations trying to feed them. “Hunger never takes a day off,” he says. “For Trump to use hunger as a weapon the way he has, to be cruel and magnify his voice is one of the worst things I’ve seen in politics.”

On Nov. 13, Wyden visited Food for Lane County’s warehouse and met with Executive Director Carolyn Stein to discuss how to take the long view, particularly for seniors and people with disabilities and the problematic nature of people working full-time jobs who are unable to afford food.

And after the Nov. 23 Oregon vs. USC game where Wyden watched and mingled with fans from the sideline, he headed to Newport for his 1,138th town hall meeting to express his disinterest in a possible ICE facility opening in the coastal town.

Over 40 years in Congress taught Wyden to freely and smartly distribute his political capital, which, according to rule 11, “doesn’t earn interest and is worth nothing if you don’t spend it.”

Wyden says, “A lot of times people have resources that they can use, and they say, well, not right now. Sometimes it doesn’t always remain, speak out and use it.”

The senator says he wants to focus his next book more on Big Tech as national security, personal liberty, and women’s rights issues.

Find *It Takes Chutzpah*, Grand Central Publishing, \$30, at your local bookstore.

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Local Bookstores to Feed Your Soul

Looking at Eugene bookstores and what they have to offer

By Savannah Brown

Cozying up with a good book, a hot drink and a blanket is something of a lost art. So too is turning to books for education and research. In a world where there are so many books but so little time, this art is more than attainable in Eugene.

We are a small town with so many independently owned bookstores that each has something to make them unique. The power of the written word is that it will always be there for you, should you go looking for it.

A great bookstore for both modern classics and classic classics is **Hodgepodge Books and Taps** (158 East 14th Avenue, BooksAndTaps.com), which is a very new — yet instant — Eugene staple at just over a year and a half old. Hodgepodge is the lovechild of a bookstore and a bar, meaning that anyone is welcome to walk into the sunlit store, buy an alcoholic drink (or soda or hot tea), and browse through the wide collection before taking their new purchases upstairs to the cozy reading area.

Hayden Fulfer is a bartender at Hodgepodge who has worked there since opening day in April 2024. Fulfer, who could not imagine tending a “normal” bar after working at Hodgepodge, says, “I love when people sit at the bar and we talk about books.” Fulfer says that book recommendations and chatter fly from across the bar as fast as the drinks do, with the regulars always coming to report back about their latest reads. If a drink gets spilled on a book, Fulfer says they simply get discounted. Also like a bar, Hodgepodge holds regular events, such as book trivia and poetry readings.

Another event-oriented bookstore is **Tsunami Books** (2585 Willamette, TsunamiBooks.org). For 29 years, Tsunami has been a magical bookstore — most days, it’s a quiet and cozy place for reading and browsing. But when a blues,

bluegrass, jazz or any other talented musician comes to Eugene and takes Tsunami’s tiny stage, the room gets rearranged and the books are moved to fit over 100 chairs around the dance floor. Suddenly, Tsunami is a concert venue supporting artists of all kinds, apparent from the hundreds of promotional posters that adorn the ceilings.

“Billy Strings played here three times,” owner Scott Landfield says. “This historically was kind of a final step for him.” As the now-famed bluegrass musician decided to embark on a solo career, he called Tsunami, requesting to play there for one of his first shows on his own. “He knew he was going to hit some dud notes and he knew it was going to be a friendly crowd,” Landfield says.

As far as the book selection goes, Landfield says Tsunami’s focus has always been curating “used, new and remaindered books for the progressive mind.”

If the modern bookstore is not for you, and you instead prefer to feel like a researcher with a monocle, exploring a vintage, dusty library with a modern flair, **J. Michaels Books** (60 East Broadway, JMichaelsBooks.com) is

where to go. Though it has a collection of new books, J. Michaels has books covering the world, religion, science and old literature. It’s a brightly lit space with an organized and sophisticated selection for every bookworm. Go to J. Michaels to learn about society and the world you live in, and also to browse its selection of rare, antiquated, first editions and signed copies.

If you’re just looking for books on books, check out **Smith Family Bookstore** (525 Willamette, SmithFamilyBookstore.com). When you initially walk in, you’ll typically find a mountain of unsorted books among the sky-high bookshelves that span the length of

the store. Though this mountain is not to be touched, it’s a testament to the truly wide and perpetually growing selection that Smith carries. If you come in with another person, you’ll instantly lose them (and yourself) in the large maze of books. This is enhanced because the store is multilevel, meaning that if you’re ever able to clear the bottom floor, you’ll climb to the second story and find almost as many books. At Smith Family Bookstore, you’ll never run out of options.

Another bookstore to get lost in for the better part of a day is **Black Sun Books** (2467 Hilyard Street). Though it is a much smaller building than Smith Family Bookstore, don’t let that fool you. With floor-to-ceiling bookshelves packed in as much as possible, Black Sun makes the

most of its space by absolutely filling it to the brim. Though it doesn’t feel claustrophobic or overwhelming in there, it is truly a book jungle, with plenty of little corners and nooks full of ravenous books ready to swallow any reader who dares approach.

There are also a variety of themed bookstores in town.

Books with Pictures

(296 East 5th Avenue, Suite 224, BooksWithPictures.com) carries as many new comic books from local and indie authors, as they do the biggest Marvel and DC Comics. **Star Gate** (1374 Willamette, Suite 1, StarGateEugene.wixsite.com/star-gate) is a spiritual self-help bookstore meant to help its patrons become aligned with their innermost selves.

Daffodil Books

(27 West 5th Avenue, Daffodil-Romantasy-Books-And-Gifts.square.site) is a dark academia romantasy bookstore and coffee shop, focusing on “feminine” books, according to its owner, Bailey Prusz. Prusz’ favorite part about Daffodil Books applies to all of these eclectic bookstores in town. “The main thing that is so special about this place is the community that we’ve created. I think a lot of people have made friends and found a community of people that they otherwise would not have.”

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DEC. 6

Watch as the community transforms the streets of Springfield into an enchanted snowman forest — which is this year's theme for the 73rd Annual **Springfield Christmas Parade**, also known as Oregon's "Oldest and Coldest" parade. The event is one of Lane County's longest-running traditions, and is organized by the nonprofit Oregon Riders Society. ORS President Brenda Hughey says, "We help children in need, whether it be Christmas or Thanksgiving, dinners or electricity bills that are needed to make ends meet for the family." She adds, "If they were in a fire, we go out and we will help them replace clothing and furniture or toys." That's where the \$60 parade entry donation goes. "It does cost a lot to put on the parade but anything over or above goes 100 percent back in the community. We don't take anything," Hughey says. "Our time is 100 percent volunteer, and if we come up short on something, we all put our own money in, and we pay for it." ORS accepts same-day entries with the \$60 fee and a packet. A parade entry, she says, "can be anything, you can be a single person on a horse, you can be a business, you can be a church. You can be a bunch of people who just want to get together and put a float together." A judging panel of three individuals not connected to the parade selects winners in four categories: Best Organized, Best Theme, Judges' Choice and People's Choice. Once the judges make their decisions, winners are presented with a plaque. — *Kat Tabor*

The Springfield Parade is 1 pm Saturday, Dec. 6, beginning at the corner of 21st Street and Olympic Street. Parade contestants and floats must be lined up by noon. Free attendance. \$60 parade entry. Visit OregonRidersSociety.org for more information.

December 4 THURSDAY

Art/Craft

Paint & Sip: Cute Snowman, 2-4pm, Art w/ Alejandro, 590 Pearl St. ste. 104. \$35

Paint & Sip: Gingerbread Mushroom House, 6-8pm, Art w/ Alejandro, 590 Pearl St. ste. 104. \$35

Benefits

Hot Cocoa Social Hour, 5-7pm, Dark Pine Coffee, 954 Pearl St.

Comedy

Wet Paint Improv, 7-9pm, John Henry's, 881 Willamette. \$5

Gareth Reynolds, 8-11pm, WOW Hall, 291 W. 8th Ave. \$26-35

Food/Drink

Thursday Tasting w/ Swift Cider & Recluse Brew Works, 5pm-7pm, The Bier Stein, 1591 Willamette.

Gatherings

Emerald Empire Kiwanis Club Mtg., noon-1pm, Countryside Pizza & Grill, 645 River Rd.

Hearing Voices & Different Realities Support Group, 1-2:30pm, Trauma Healing Project, 631 E. 19th Ave. Bldg. B.

Holiday Nights at the Museum, 4:30-7:30pm, Museum of Natural & Cultural History, 1680 E. 15th Ave. \$5-\$7

Grief Support After a Substance Passing, 6:30-8:30pm, Unitarian Universalist Church, 1685 W. 13th Ave.

Family Support Group, 7-8:30pm, NAMI Lane County, 129 9th St., Spfd.

Lectures/Classes

Hablemos Español: Spanish Conversation, 4pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Nightlife

Trivia, 6:30-8:30pm, Viking Brewing West, 520 Commercial St. ste. F.

Bingo Night, 7pm, Twisted Duck Pub, 529 W. Centennial Blvd., Spfd.

Trivia, 7pm, Gratitude Brewing, 540 E. 8th Ave.

Thursday Night Karaoke w/ Adam, 8pm-midnight, Happy Hours, 645 River Rd.

Karaoke, 8:30pm-12:30am, The Barn Light, 924 Willamette.

Outdoors/Recreation

Gentle Chair Yoga w/ Clark Stacer, noon-1pm, St. Thomas Episcopal Fellowship Hall, 1465 Coburg Rd.

Social Dance

Latin Dancing, 7-10pm, Claim 52 Brewing, 232 Lincoln St. \$5

Spiritual

Higher Self Meditation, 5-5:30pm, Online, visit SpiritualArts.org for link.

Refuge Recovery, 5:30-7pm, Sacred Connections Community Church, 810 W. 3rd Ave.

Theater

Something' Special for Christmas: A Christmas Western & Dinner Theater, 7:30-9:30pm,

1420 Kalmia St., Junction City. \$11-26

December 5 FRIDAY

Art/Craft

30 Years of Gathering & Making, 10am-4pm, White Lotus Gallery, 767 Willamette.

Sew Your own Pajama Bottoms, 4-5pm, Dreamery Fabric, 245 W. 8th Ave. \$80

First Friday Art Walk, 5pm, PLAY, 232 W. 5th Ave.

First Friday ArtWalk, 5:30-8pm, Farmers Market Pavilion, 85 E. 8th Ave.

DIY Pipe Cleaner Trees, 6-7:30pm, Overlap Self Care Superstore, 136 S. 6th St., Spfd. \$20

Penumbra, 6-8pm, The Hybrid Gallery, 941 W. 3rd Ave.

Benefits

Toy Drive & Flash Fundraiser, 1-7pm, Whiteaker Tattoo Collective, 995 W. 7th Ave.

29th Annual Empty Bowls, 4-7pm, Florence Events Ctr., 715 Quince St., Florence.

Buy a Pint Support a Tyke: A Fundraiser for PBL, 5-7:30pm, Claim 52 Brewing, 232 Lincoln St.

Civics

Light Up a Life, noon-8pm, Pete Moore Hospice House, 4010 County Farm Rd.

HIV Alliance & Lane Arts Council World AIDS Day 2025, 5:30pm, Farmers Market Pavilion, 85 E. 8th Ave.

Gatherings

Peer Connection Support Group, 4-5:30pm, NAMI Lane County, 129 9th St., Spfd.

Kids/Family

Twins: Play D&D, 4pm, Sheldon Branch Eugene Public Library, 1566 Coburg Rd.

Twins: OBOB Celebration, 4:30pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Lectures/Classes

Tech Help, 11am, Bethel Branch Eugene Public Library, 1990 Echo Hollow Rd.

Markets

Kids Like-New Gift Swap, noon-5pm, 555 High St.

Holiday Sale & Show, 2-5pm, Whiteaker Printmakers, 1328 W. 2nd Ave.

Nightlife

Downtown Eugene Holiday Night Out, 4:30-8pm, Downtown Eugene.

Trivia, 7pm, The Barn Light, 924 Willamette.

Twisted Karaoke w/ DJ Saturn, 8pm-midnight, Twisted Duck Pub, 529 W. Centennial Blvd., Spfd.

Karaoke, 9pm-1am, The Barn Light, 924 Willamette.

Outdoors/Recreation

Fun Friday Goat Yoga: Holiday Edition, 6-7pm, No Regrets Flower Farm & Animal Sanctuary, 26641 Bellfountain Rd., Monroe. \$28

Social Dance

Live Salsa Music & Dancing, 9pm-12:15am, The Vet's

Club, 1626 Willamette. \$12-15

Spiritual

Recovery Dharma Buddhist Recovery Mtg., 10-11am, Jesco Club, 340 Blair Blvd.

LGBTQ+ Youth Group, 4-6pm, Amazon Community Ctr., 2700 Hilyard St.

Theater

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, 7:30pm, Cottage Theatre, 700 Village Dr., Cottage Grove. \$15-29

Oklahoma!, 7:30pm, The Shedd, 868 High St. \$29-45

Something' Special for Christmas: A Christmas Western & Dinner Theater, 7:30-9:30pm, 1420 Kalmia St., Junction City. \$11-26

December 6

SATURDAY

Art/Craft

Holiday Sale & Show, 9am-7pm, Whiteaker Printmakers, 1328 W. 2nd Ave.

Wonder-Tender: a Collaborative Art Exhibition, 11am-6pm, The Oblivion Factory, 3923 Cross St.

Create Something Day, noon-4pm, 555 High St. \$5-15

Sew Your Own Pajama Bottoms, noon-3pm, Dreamery Fabric, 245 W. 8th Ave. \$80

Warehouse District Art Hop, noon-9pm, Westside Warehouse District.

Paint & Sip: Red Truck & Barn, 3-5pm, Art w/ Alejandro, 590 Pearl St. ste. 104. \$45

Paint & Sip: Gnome w/ Lantern, 6:30-8:30pm, Art w/ Alejandro, 590 Pearl St. ste. 104. \$45

Benefits

29th Annual Empty Bowls, 10am-6pm, Florence Events Ctr., 715 Quince St., Florence.

Ann's Heart Ugly Christmas Sweater FUNraiser, 1-4pm, Ebbert Memorial United Methodist Church, 532 C St., Spfd.

Toy Drive & Flash Fundraiser, 1-7pm, Whiteaker Tattoo Collective, 995 W. 7th Ave.

Buy a Pint Support a Tyke: A Fundraiser for PBL, 4-7pm, Claim 52 Brewing, 232 Lincoln St.

Comedy

Comedy in the Cattail Lounge, 7:30pm, Wetland Brew Pub, 922 Garfield St.

Double Entendre, 8pm, Fathoms, 790 E. 14th Ave. \$11-17

Dance

Elite Dance Company Presents: All Out '90s, 7:30-9:30pm, Oregon Contemporary Theatre, 194 W. Broadway. \$24-28

Drag

Fae Realm Productions Presents: Holiday Kings A Journey through Winter Wonderland, 3pm & 7pm, Whiteside Theatre, 361 SW Madison Ave., Corvallis. \$10-15.

Drag Bingo, 5pm, Sparrow & Serpent, 211 Washington St.

Sweater Weather: A Cozy Cabaret, 8pm, 255 Madison St. \$10

Film

Saturday Morning Cartoons, 10am-2pm, Caffe Pacori, 255 Wallis St.

Gatherings

Overeaters Anonymous, 9:30-10:30am, Unitarian Universalist Church, 1685 W. 13th Ave.

Health

Super Simple Ways to Support Immunity w/ Yaakov Levine FNTP, 11am-noon, Natural Grocers, 201 Coburg Rd.

Holiday

Stained Glass & Candlelight, 5pm, Cottage Grove Museum, 147 N. H St., Cottage Grove.

Kids/Family

Celebrate Winter: Songs & Stories, 10:30am, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Family Fun: LEGO, 3-5pm, Bethel Branch Eugene Public Library, 1990 Echo Hollow Rd.

Lectures/Classes

End-of-Year Financial Planning & Budgeting, 10am, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Talk Time: Practice Conversational English, 10am, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Creative Sensory Journey Workshop, 11:30am-1pm, Luke Adler Healing, 1633 Willamette. \$45

Markets

Holiday Bazaar, 8am-4pm, Camas Country Schoolhouse Bakery & Store, 91948 Pukerson Rd., Junction City.

Art Hop, 9am-4pm, Caffe Pacori, 255 Wallis St.

Holiday Bazaar, 9am-3pm, River Rd. Park & Recreation District, 1400 Lake Dr.

Knife Show: December Mini Show, 9am-3pm, Lane Events Ctr., 796 W. 13th Ave.

Lane County Farmers Market, 9am-3pm, Lane County Farmers Market, 8th Ave. & Oak St.

Community Holiday Sale, 9am-3pm, Sacred Connections Community Church, 810 W. 3rd Ave.

Clay Space Holiday Show, 10am-4pm, Clay Space, 222 Polk Ave.

Fused Glass Studio Sale, 10am-2pm, Fused Glass Studio, 1441 McKinley Court.

Pleasant Hill Pottery Holiday Sale, 10am-5pm, Pleasant Hill Pottery, 85426 Ridgeway, Pleasant Hill.

Winter WUUnderland Bazaar, 10am-4pm, Unitarian Universalist Church, 1685 W. 13th Ave.

Holiday Makers Market, noon-5pm, Viking Brewing West, 520 Commercial St. ste. F.

Open Studio Sale, noon-6pm, Diana Cuyler, 37043 Immigrant Rd., Pleasant Hill.

Outdoors/Recreation

Yoga, 10am, The Hybrid, 941 W. 3rd Ave. \$10-20

Spiritual

Insight Meditation & Dharma Reflections & Discussion, 9:30-11am, Unitarian Universalist Bldg, 1685 W. 13th Ave.

CALENDAR

Full-Day Meditation, 10am-4pm, The Ctr. for Sacred Sciences, 5440 Saratoga St.
Kirtan w/ Sitaram Dass, 6:30-8:30pm, Ctr. for Spiritual Living, 390 Vernal St. \$11-50

Theater

O Christmas Tea: A British Comedy, 3pm & 7:30pm, Hult Ctr. \$27.20-78.10.

Cool Yule, 4-5:30pm, The Rink Exchange, 796 W. 13th Ave.

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, 7:30pm, Cottage Theatre, 700 Village Dr., Cottage Grove. \$15-29

Oklahoma!, 7:30pm, The Shedd, 868 High St. \$29-45

Somethin' Special for Christmas: A Christmas Western & Dinner Theater, 7:30-9:30pm, 1420 Kalmia St., Junction City. \$1-26

December 7 SUNDAY

Art/Craft

Holiday Sale & Show, 9am-5pm, Whiteaker Printmakers, 1328 W. 2nd Ave.

South Town Art Walk, 10am-4pm, Various locations, Corvallis.

Holiday Gift Wrapping, noon-10pm, The Bier Stein, 1591 Willamette.

Open Studio Sale, noon-6pm, Diana Cuyler, 37043 Immigrant Rd., Pleasant Hill.

Creativity Café, 1-3pm, The Hybrid, 941 W. 3rd Ave. \$10

DIY Pipe Cleaner Christmas Trees, 1-2:30pm, beergarden, 777 W. 6th Ave. \$20

Hand-Made Books Using Natural Materials, 1-4pm, 555 High St.

Craft Holiday Cards, 2-4pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Paint & Sip: Pink Christmas Tree, 2-4pm, Art w/ Alejandro, 590 Pearl St. ste. 104. \$35

Benefits

29th Annual Empty Bowls, 1-4pm, Florence Events Ctr., 715 Quince St., Florence.

Buy a Pint Support a Tyke: A Fundraiser for PBL, 3-5:30pm, Claim 52 Brewing, 232 Lincoln St.

Comedy

Kegs of Comedy w/ Ralph Anthony, 7-9pm, Axe & Fiddle, 657 E. Main St., Cottage Grove.

Hand Shoes & Horse Grenades, 7:30pm, Luckey's Club, 933 Olive St.

Dance

Dances of the Balkans, 7:15-9:30pm, Vet's Club, 1620 Willamette. \$5

Festival

Eugene Friends Church Old Fashioned Quaker Faire, 2-5pm, Eugene Friends Church, 3495 W. 18th Ave.

Film

A Christmas Story (1983), 6pm, Whiteside Theatre, 361 SW. Madison Ave., Corvallis. \$8-10

Kids/Family

Family Fun: LEGO, 1-4:30pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Lectures/Classes

West African DunDun Drumming Class w/ Ibou Sylla, 3:30pm, Platform 360, 1840 Willamette. \$20

Literary Arts

Poetry in the Round, 12:30-2pm, Coburg Commons Bookstore, 91193 N. Willamette, Coburg.

Writing Time, 6:30-9pm, Wordcrafters Studio, 436 Charnelton St. ste. 100, \$5

Markets

Native American Arts & Crafts Market, 10am-4pm, Farmers Market Pavilion, 85 E. 8th Ave.

Pleasant Hill Pottery Holiday Sale, 10am-5pm, Pleasant Hill Pottery, 85426 Ridgeway Dr., Pleasant Hill.

Nightlife

Sunday Karaoke w/ DJ Johnben, 8pm-midnight, Happy Hours, 645 River Rd.

Outdoors/Recreation

Holiday Wreath & Centerpiece Workshop & Goat Happy Hour, 11am-1pm, No Regrets Flower Farm & Animal Sanctuary, 26641 Bellfountain Rd., Monroe. \$75

Holiday Original Goat Yoga & Goat Happy Hour w/ Hot Cider, 3-4pm, No Regrets Flower Farm & Animal Sanctuary, 26641 Bellfountain Rd., Monroe. \$40

Social Dance

Eugene Community Ecstatic Dance, 11:15am-12:30pm, River Rd, House Concert, 246 Ivanhoe.

W. African Dance Class w/ Ibou Sylla, 4:30-5:30pm, Platform 360, 1840 Willamette. \$20



DEC. 6 It's finally December, which means the holiday season has officially begun. It's also the first weekend of the month, so all of the artsy-or-otherwise Eugeneans get to come out to play. After enjoying the art of downtown Eugene in the First Friday ArtWalk, the party keeps going the next day with the First Saturday Warehouse District Art Hop Dec. 6. As you galavant among the art this weekend, combine it with the holiday season at Caffé Pacori for the **Holiday Art Hop**, where event coordinator Dena Zehava says attendees can expect, well, "Simply put? Art and community. And cartoons. And a live band. And coffee. And a free arcade. And a giant monkey driving a banana car." Browse the collection of local vendors and makers, listen to music by the Little Red Roosters, and enjoy hot drinks and food trucks. For every purchase you make, you'll receive a raffle ticket for a basket full of donations from the local vendors. Speaking of donations, Bags of Love will also be there, holding a coat and toy drive, and Food for Lane County is holding a food drive (every donation also gets a raffle ticket). Along with celebrating West Eugene's art community, there are so many reasons to attend the Holiday Art Hop. "Did we mention the monkey driving the banana?" Zehava says. — Savannah Brown

The Holiday Art Hop is 9 am to 4 pm Saturday, Dec. 6, at Caffé Pacori, 255 Wallis Street, Suite 3. Free.

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Saturday, December 6th
Shelley Doty
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CALENDAR

Spectator Sports

Brunches & Dragons, 11am-2pm, The Sparrow & Serpent Pub, 211 Washington St. \$5

Spiritual

Nondual Teachings from the Great Spiritual Traditions, 11am-12:45pm, The Ctr. for Sacred Sciences, 5440 Saratoga St.

Religion & Human Rights, 10-11:30am, Baha'i Ctr., 1458 Alder St.

Sunday Gathering, 10:30-11:30am, The Ctr., 390 Vernal St.

The Good Word, 3:30pm, Sacred Connections Community Church, 810 W. 3rd Ave.

Theater

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, 2:30pm, Cottage Theatre, 700 Village Dr., Cottage Grove. \$15-29

O Christmas Tea: A British Comedy, 3pm, Hult Ctr. \$27.20-78.10

Oklahoma!, 3pm, The Shedd, 868 High St. \$29-45

December 8 MONDAY

Art/Craft

Twine Cattail Basket Workshop, 5pm, Whirled Pies, 199 W. 8th Ave. \$50.

Civics

Public Health Advisory Committee, 3:30-5pm, Lane County Public Health, Rm. 525, 151 W. 7th Ave. or visit LaneCountyOr.gov for link.

City Council Wk. Session, 5:30pm, Eugene City Hall, 500 E. 4th Ave.

City Council Mtg., 7:30pm, Eugene City Hall, 500 E. 4th Ave.

Gatherings

Afternoon Chess, 4-6pm, PublicHouse, 418 A St., Spfd.

Fireside Council, 6-8pm, Dharmalaya, 365 Horn Ln.

Peer Connection Support Group, 6-7:30pm, Fern Ridge Library, 88026 Territorial Hwy., Veneta.

Atheist Pub Social, 6:30-8:30pm, Claim 52 Brewing, 232 Lincoln St.

Lectures/Classes

From Grapes to Mushrooms: The Farm Workers' Rights Movement in Oregon 1965-2025, 7pm, Whirled Pies, 199 W. 8th Ave.

Literary Arts

Untamed Page, 6:30-8:30pm, The Hybrid, 941 W. 3rd Ave. \$15

Nightlife

Quality Trivia, 6-8pm, Oakshire Public House, 207 Madison St.

Cash Bingo Mondays, 6:30pm, The Pour House Tavern, 444 N. 42nd St., Spfd. \$5-19

Cribbage w/ Eugene Cribbage, 6:30-8:30pm, The Annex Eugene, 1236 Kincaid St. \$3

Trivia Mondays w/ Geo, 6:30pm, PublicHouse, 418 A St., Spfd.

Monday Night Trivia, 7pm, PLAY, 232 W. 5th St.

Outdoors/Recreation

Taiji & Mobility Classes, 9-10am, Denfnity Dance Studio, 1325 Jefferson St. \$15-20



DEC. 6 “And the Oscar goes to...” at the 48th Academy Awards in 1976, **One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest (1975)** achieved a feat that only two other films share: winning the Big Five at the Academy Awards — Best Adapted Screenplay, Best Actress, Best Actor, Best Director and of course, Best Picture. Based on Oregon author Ken Kesey’s 1962 novel of the same name, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* was released in theaters 50 years ago. Having worked on set, Katherine K’iya Wilson helped bring one of the most well-regarded films of all time to life. “When Kesey published *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*, it changed the world,” Wilson says. The novel and film hold a special place in her heart for finally dismantling the “silent Indian” trope that had long been cast over Native people in movies and television. Will Sampson is an actor from the Muscogee Nation who plays Chief Bromden in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*. Bromden is a Native character whose ancestors were from the Celilo Falls area, and he pushes back against the film industry’s limited view of Native Americans in 1975 and before. To celebrate the 50th anniversary, a reception will be held with a panel, which includes Wilson, followed by a screening of the film. — *Pierce Baugh V*

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest 50th Anniversary Celebration is 5 pm Saturday, Dec. 6, at Art House, 492 East 13th Avenue. Tickets are \$25 and are available at EugeneArtHouse.com.

DEC. 6

StrongPeople, 10-11am, OSU Extension Service, 996 Jefferson St.

Beginner's Rock Climbing, 6-8pm, Crux Rock Climbing Gym, 401 W. 3rd Ave. \$17

Beginning Capoeira Series, 7:30-8:30pm, Eugene Yoga S., 3575 Donald St. ste. 180. \$5-65

Social Dance

Weekly W., Coast Swing Dance, 7-10:30pm, The Vet's Club, 1626 Willamette. \$7

Spiritual

Higher Self Meditation, 9-9:30am, Online, visit SpiritualArts.org for link.

December 9 TUESDAY

Art/Craft

Awaken the Healer w/ in: A Journey Through Art, 11:30am-1pm, Trauma Healing Project, 631 E. 19th Ave. Bldg. B. \$5-15

Craft Holiday Cards, 5-6:30pm, Sheldon Branch Eugene Public Library, 1566 Coburg Rd.

Listen & Create: Polića, 5-7:30pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Civics

Lane County Board of Commissioners Mtg., 9am, Lane County Public Service Bldg., 125 E. 8th Ave., Online, visit LaneCountyOr.gov for link.

Winter Trips Showcase, 3-4pm, Willamalane Adult Activity Ctr., 215 W. C St., Spfd.

Talking Politics Meetup, 6-7:30pm, Oakshire Public House, 207 Madison St.

Festival

Hoodoo's Wintervention Albany, 6-8pm, The Barn, 640 NW. Hickory St., Albany.

Hoodoo's Wintervention Eugene, 6-8pm, PLAY, 232 W. 5th Ave.

Health

Live Lifestyle Medicine Free, 7-8:30pm, First Christian Church Spfd., 395 Centennial Spfd.

Kids/Family

Toddler Time, 9-11am, Willamalane Adult Activity Ctr., 215 W. C St., Spfd. \$7-9

Tweens: Gamer Brain, 4:30pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Lectures/Classes

Winter Trips Showcase, 3-4pm, Willamalane Adult Activity Ctr., 215 W. C St., Spfd.

Compassionate Listening Workshop, 5-7pm, Ebbert Memorial United Methodist Church, 532 C St., Spfd. \$100-150

History Pub, 5pm, The Axe & Fiddle, 657 E. Main St., Cottage Grove.

Mic Drop Club, 5:30-7:30pm, The District Coworking & Flex Space, 590 Pearl St. ste. 300. \$199

Literary Arts

Writing Time, 9:30am-noon, Wordcrafters Studio, 436 Charnelton St. ste. 100. \$5

Nightlife

Elks Lodge Bingo, 5-9pm, Elks Lodge, 2470 W. 11th Ave. ste. 357. \$5

Tacos & Trivia, 6-8pm, Tallman Brewing, 2055 Primrose St., Lebanon.

Bingo Tuesdays w/ Ty Connor, 6:30pm, PublicHouse, 418 A St., Spfd.

Quality Trivia, 6:30-8:30pm, Oakshire Commons, 416 Main St., Spfd.

Bingo & Tacos, 7-9pm, The Bier Stein, 1591 Willamette.

Bingo w/ Judy Jitsu, 7pm, PLAY, 232 W. 5th St. \$1

Trivia Tuesday, 7-9pm, beer-garden, 777 W. 6th Ave.

Twisted Karaoke & Tacos, 8pm, Twisted Duck Pub, 529 W. Centennial Blvd., Spfd.

Outdoors/Recreation

Gentle & Restorative Yoga, 10-11am, Trauma Healing Project, 631 E. 19th Ave. Bldg. B. \$5-15

Gentle Chair Yoga w/ Clark Sta- cer, noon-1pm, St. Thomas Episcopal Fellowship Hall, 1465 Coburg Rd.

Social Dance

Latin Dance Night w/ DJ Vito, 7-11pm, The Cowfish Dance Club, 62 W. Broadway. \$8

December 10 WEDNESDAY

Art/Craft

Craft Holiday Cards, 11-12:30pm, Sheldon Branch Eugene Public Library, 1566 Coburg Rd.

Benefits

Claim 52 Pint Night Fundraiser, noon-9pm, Claim 52 Brewing, 232 Lincoln St.

Civics

City Council Wk. Session, noon, Online, visit LaneCountyOr.gov for link,

Comedy

Another Round: Open Mic Comedy, 7:30pm, The Pint Pot Pub, 195 E. 17th Ave.

Film

Moviegroup: The Shoes of the Fisherman (1963), 1-3:45pm, Willamalane Adult Activity Ctr., 215 W. C St., Spfd.

Liberation Cinema: Voices for Collective Healing, 6:30-9pm, Trauma Healing Project, 631 E. 19th Ave. Bldg. B. \$12-30

A Christmas Story (1983), 7pm, Whiteside Theatre, 361 SW. Madison Ave., Corvallis. \$8-10

Horrible Bingo: Elves (1989), 7-9pm, Art House, 492 E. 13th Ave. \$10

Watch Party Wednesdays: Survivor Season 49, 7:30pm, PublicHouse, 418 A St., Spfd.

Gatherings

Eugene Go Club, 5:30-9pm, The Wheel Apizza Pub, 390 Lincoln St.

Overeaters Anonymous, 6-7:30pm, Unity of the Valley, 3912 Dillard Rd.

Peer Connection Support Group, 6:30-8:30pm, Online, visit Nami.org for link.

Wednesday Board Game Night w/ Ayla, 6:30-10pm, Axe & Fiddle, 657 E. Main St., Cottage Grove.

Native Men's Stick Talking Circle, 7-9pm, Stargate Lotus Rm., 1374 Willamette.

Health

Breathing for Health & Stress & Anxiety Relief, 1:30-2:30pm, Trauma Healing Project, 631 E. 19th Ave. Bldg. B. \$15

The Creative Healing Reset, 3-4pm, Trauma Healing Project, 631 E. 19th Ave. Bldg. B. \$15

Kids/Family

STEAM Stories: Light, 4:30pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Lectures/Classes

Talk Time: Practice Conversational English, 4pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Community Philosophy Circle: Immigration & Belonging, 6pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Nightlife

Cribbage w/ Eugene Cribbage, 6:30-8:30pm, The Bier Stein, 1591 Willamette. \$5.

Bingo Wednesdays w/ Ty Connor, 7-9pm, beergarden, 777 W. 6th Ave.

Trivia w/ Brett From Shelbyville Trivia, 7pm, Drop Bear Brewery, 2690 Willamette.

Drag Bingo After Dark, 9-11pm, Sparrow & Serpent, 211 Washington St.

Outdoors/Recreation

StrongPeople, 8:30-9:30am, Confederated Tribe of Siletz Indians, 2468 W. 11th Ave.

Yoga, 10am, The Hybrid, 941 W. 3rd Ave. \$10-20.

Community Yoga, 5:30-6:30pm, Sacred Connections Community Church, 810 W. 3rd Ave.

Teens

Craft Citrus Garlands, 4:30pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

December 11 THURSDAY

Art/Craft

Paint & Sip: Snoopy, 2-4pm, Art w/ Alejandro, 590 Pearl St. ste. 104. \$35.

The Art of Science & Culture, 4:30-7:30pm, Museum of Natural & Cultural History, 1680 E. 15th Ave. \$6.

Paint & Sip: Reindeer, 6-8pm, Art w/ Alejandro, 590 Pearl St. ste. 104. \$35.

Drag

The Muse Collective Cabaret, 9pm, The Sparrow & Serpent Pub, 211 Washington St. \$10.

Film

Horrible Bingo: Elves (1989), 7-9pm, Art House, 492 E. 13th Ave., \$10.

Food/Drink

Thursday Tasting w/ Bauman's Cider Company, 5pm, The Bier Stein, 1591 Willamette.

Gatherings

Emerald Empire Kiwanis Club Mtg., noon, Countryside Pizza & Grill, 645 River Rd.

Family Support Group, 7-8:30pm, NAMI Lane County, 129 9th St., Spfd.

Lectures/Classes

Gentle Chair Yoga w/ Clark Sta- cer, noon-1pm, St. Thomas Episcopal Fellowship Hall, 1465 Coburg Rd.

Duck Talks, 6:30pm, Drop Bear Brewery, 2690 Willamette.

Literary Arts

Word Open Mic, 7-9:30pm, Wordcrafters Studio, 436 Charnelton St. ste. 100, \$15.

Nightlife

Trivia, 6:30-8:30pm, Viking Brewing West, 520 Commercial St. ste. F.

Bingo, 7pm, Twisted Duck Pub, 529 W. Centennial Blvd., Spfd.

Trivia, 7pm, Gratitude Brewing, 540 E. 8th Ave.

Thursday Night Karaoke w/ Adam, 8pm-midnight, Happy Hours, 645 River Rd.

Karaoke, 8:30pm-12:30am, The Barn Light, 924 Willamette.

Social Dance

Latin Dancing, 7-10pm, Claim 52 Brewing, 232 Lincoln St. \$5.

Spiritual

Higher Self Meditation, 5-5:30pm, Online, visit SpiritualArts.org for link.

Refuge Recovery, 5:30-7pm, Sacred Connections Community Church, 810 W. 3rd Ave.

Tarot Practice Circle, 7-9pm, Brightheart Alchemy Guides, 995 Lewis Ave. Apt 4, \$4-9.

Theater

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, 7:30pm, Cottage Theatre, 700 Village Dr., Cottage Grove. \$15-29.

Music Listings

THURSDAY 12/4

AXE & FIDDLE Generifus (indie) — 7:30pm. \$5

BEERGARDEN Annual Whiskey Week — 11:30am.

BEERGARDEN John Badger & The New Old-Time Apocalyptic Revival (blues) — 7pm.

BLAIRALLY Roxy Doll & DJ Smuve (acoustic) — 8:30pm.

LUCKEY'S CLUB Funk Night Eugene — 9pm.

OREGON WINE LAB Vinyl Night — 5:30pm.

PLAY EUGENE Records w/ Jo Diddley — 8pm.

SPRINGFIELD EAGLES LODGE NO. 3597 Thursday Night Jam — 7pm.

THE JAZZ STATION Moon Mountain String Band — 7:30pm. \$20

TSUNAMI BOOKS Paul Safar & the Tsunami Baby Grand w/ Sandy Holder & Josh Ebling (instrumental) — 6:30pm.

FRIDAY 12/5

ART HOUSE Halie Loren: A Winter's Night (holiday) — 8pm. \$25-30

AXE & FIDDLE A Celtic Christmas w/ The Katie Jane Band — 7:30pm. \$18

BEERGARDEN Annual Whiskey Week — 11:30am.

BEERGARDEN Molasses (neo-soul) — 7:30pm.

BLAIRALLY Church of 80s: Dance Party Every Friday — 9pm. \$4

BROADWAY HOUSE CONCERTS Broadway House Concerts Presents: Christopher Brown Jazz Quartet — 7:30pm. \$15-25

DROP BEAR BREWERY Charlie Kimball (country) — 7pm.

EUGENE ELKS LODGE NO. 357 The Survivors Band (classic rock) — 6pm.

EUGENE SCIENCE CTR. Friday Night Laser Shows — 5pm. \$3.75-7.50

GRATITUDE BREWING Meadow Rue (bluegrass) — 6:30pm.

MAC'S RESTAURANT & NIGHTCLUB Riffle (blues rock) — 5pm.

PUBLICHOUSE Real Gone Trio (psychobilly) — 7pm.

THE BEER STATION JC Friday Night Open Mic — 5:30pm.

THE JAZZ STATION Benny Green — 7pm & 9pm. \$40

TSUNAMI BOOKS The Blugene Brass Quintet — 5pm.

VIKING BREWING WEST Mud-dy Souls Duo (bluegrass) — 6pm.

SATURDAY 12/6

AXE & FIDDLE McKenzie Crossing Bluegrass Band — 7:30pm. \$8

BEERGARDEN Rossi & the Flame (alt rock) — 7:30pm.

BLAIRALLY 90s vs 00s Holiday Throwdown Dance Party — 10pm. \$6

EVEN STEVEN'S Northwest River Band (classic rock) — 8pm.

GRATITUDE BREWING Cross Current (folk) — 6pm.

HAPPY HOURS Yo Vinnie!! (blues) — 8:30pm.

HOUNDSTOOTH PUBLIC HOUSE Chao Chao Nao Nao & Lucid Penguin (acoustic rock) — 7pm.

MAC'S RESTAURANT & NIGHTCLUB SoulStruck (funk) — 8pm.

OAKSHIRE COMMONS Live Music — 6pm.

OAKSHIRE PUBLIC HOUSE Live Music — 6pm.

THE AXE & FIDDLE McKenzie Crossing (bluegrass) — 7:30pm. \$8

THE JAZZ STATION Home for the Holidays w/ Calvin

Orlando Smith — 7pm & 9pm. \$25

TSUNAMI BOOKS Dan Bern (singer-songwriter) — 7:30pm. \$25

WHIRLED PIES Token & Friends (Grateful Dead tribute) — 6pm.

VIKING BREWING WEST Sugar Pine (bluegrass) — 6pm.

SUNDAY 12/7

BEERGARDEN Bim Jean & The Sadness (r&b) — 4pm.

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH A Procession of Lessons & Carols for Advent — 4:30pm.

HOLIDAY MARKET Anya Lecuyer & Friends (blues) — 4:30pm.

HULT CTR. *Elf* (2003) — 2pm. \$24.50-69.90

OREGON CONTEMPORARY THEATRE *A Charlie Brown Christmas* (1965) ft. The Jose Gonzales Trio — 2pm & 7pm. \$35

THE JAZZ STATION none-such.reedquintet — 3pm. \$25

THE JAZZ STATION The Roger Woods Tentet — 7pm. \$25

THE PUBLIC HOUSE Open Mic w/ Amblin — 5:30pm.

WOW HALL Hobo Johnson (alt indie) — 8pm. \$30

MONDAY 12/8

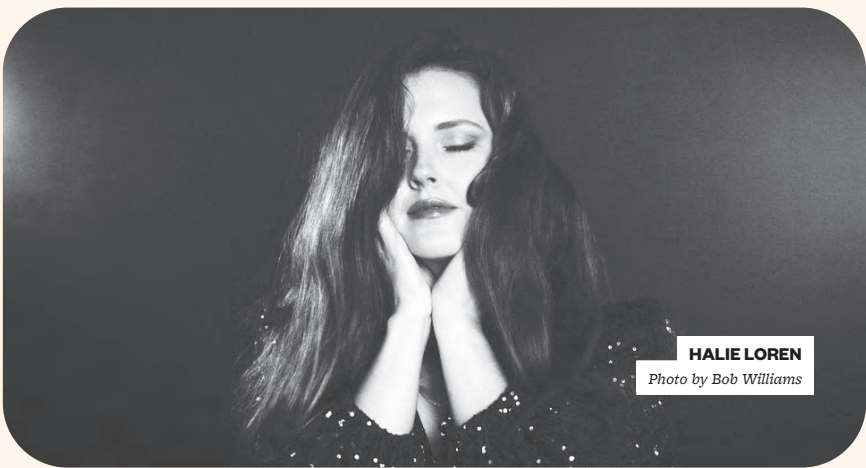
BEERGARDEN Bluegrass Jam & Game Night — 6pm.

HOUNDSTOOTH PUBLIC HOUSE Open Mic Mondays — 6:30pm.

TUESDAY 12/9

MAC'S RESTAURANT & NIGHTCLUB Roosters Blues Jam — 6:30pm.

OREGON WINE LAB Open Mic w/ Marjorie & the OWL Cats ft. River Jam — 5:45pm.



HALIE LOREN
Photo by Bob Williams

DEC. 5 Halie Loren performs holiday favorites, original songs and winter-themed selections at Art House on Friday, Dec. 5, celebrating “The Bells Were Silent,” her new single out on streaming platforms the same day. The song is the first of many new music releases from Loren coming next year. An internationally known Eugene pop and jazz singer-songwriter, Loren calls the show *A Winter's Night*. She says the setlist features jazz and pop standards, and singer-songwriter material from artists like Joni Mitchell and Gordon Lightfoot — the title of the show is inspired by Lightfoot’s “Song for a Winter’s Night” from 1967, which she’ll also perform. Loren is often on tour this time of year, and *A Winter’s Night* is her first solo seasonal show in Eugene in several years. She’s excited to perform for hometown audiences. Eugene musicians Matt Treder, Sean Peterson, Rob Birdwell and Daniel Gallo join Loren on piano, bass, trumpet and guitar. Fans will hear songs Loren has performed in the past, with some new original material she’s never sung on stage. As the new year approaches, Loren calls 2025 a mixed bag: “My family is doing well, thankfully, but there’s also a lot of sadness and grief and trying to find our way toward something better. It’s been a complicated year in general,” she says. For this reason, Loren says the *Winter’s Night* setlist is nostalgic and vulnerable, with themes about the difficulties of winter, but also “the joyful aspects” of the season, too. — *Will Kennedy*

Halie Loren A Winter's Night is 8 pm Friday, Dec. 5, at Art House, 492 East 13th Avenue. Tickets are \$25 advance, \$30 day of show. The concert is all ages.

WOW HALL Mason Jennings (folk) — 8pm. \$25-30

WOW HALL Two Runner (roots) — 8pm. \$18-20

WEDNESDAY 12/10

GRATITUDE BREWING Open Bluegrass Jam Session — 6pm.

THE HYBRID Open Mic — 7:30pm. \$5

THE JAZZ STATION The Jazz Station Jam — 6:30pm. \$10-15

THURSDAY 12/11

AXE & FIDDLE Open Mic w/ Bradley — 6:30pm.

BEERGARDEN Belltower (folk) — 7pm.

HULT CTR. Handel's Messiah — 7:30pm.

LUCKEY'S CLUB Funk Night Eugene — 9pm.

OREGON WINE LAB Vinyl Night — 5:30pm.

PLAY EUGENE Records w/ DJ Jon Smith — 8pm.

SPRINGFIELD EAGLES LODGE NO. 3597 Thursday Night Jam — 7pm.

TALLMAN BREWING Open Mic Night: Acoustic Music — 5:30pm.

TSUNAMI BOOKS Kevin Burke (Celtic fiddle) — 7:30pm. \$26



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Half a Century of WOW



WOW-A-Thon II honors the 50-year anniversary of the music festival that saved the WOW Hall

BY SAVANNAH BROWN

It's hard to believe that a town as vibrant and colorful as Eugene has so much of its life stored within the walls of the unassuming churchlike white building on the corner of West 8th Avenue and Lincoln Street.

In 1975, the WOW Hall faced a moment that would redefine it forever. It was either going to sputter out, or a miracle would have to happen. In true Eugenean fashion, the people wouldn't let it go down without a fight. The community gathered on its flexible maple wood floor to throw the WOW-A-Thon, a five-day continuous music festival that saved the building.

On Dec. 5 and 6, WOW-A-Thon II will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the day the WOW Hall was reborn and became the Community Center for the Performing Arts (CCPA). It will feature music from new and legacy acts alike, a storytelling hour and a dance performance from Fermata Dance Collective.

Booking coordinator Skyeler Williams says that everyone on the bill for WOW-A-Thon II was chosen based on their relationship with the WOW Hall. "To preserve the spirit, I had carefully thought about those legacy acts, people that have a long, deep running relationship with the hall that may have been at the original WOW-A-Thon, that knew how important it was to preserve this space, that want to come back around and celebrate our golden jubilee."

WOW Hall came to be when the Eugene chapter of the Woodmen of the World fraternal lodge needed a place to hold their meetings. They bought the property in 1906 and constructed the building in 1932. For years, it was a flourishing dancehall.

By the 1970s, it was a community center primarily rented out for events. In terms of being an artistic cultural

hub, Ed Kashin, current CCPA chairman of the board, says that "This place has always been like that from day one."

In 1972, owner E. William Mulholland "didn't really know what to do with the building," Kashin says. He handed management over to the New Globe Repertory Theater, but records show that the building had fallen into financial ruin and dilapidation. "The building was coming apart. I mean, it really was not in good shape. I remember walking in here, the side door was split," Kashin says.

Three years later, the WOW Hall was set to be sold and possibly demolished. "At the time, property values were starting to come up," Kashin says. "It wasn't on the Historic Register, not at the time. It was just a building that needed a lot of work."

'In some ways it's a retrospective, while also honoring what we are now, where we're going and where we intend to go.'

— SKYELER WILLIAMS,
BOOKING COORDINATOR

In response, a group of about half a dozen people gathered together as an officially recognized nonprofit organization called "The Committee to Secure a West-side Community Center for the Performing Arts," which was soon shortened to the "Community Center for the Performing Arts."

On Dec. 2, 1975, Mulholland informed a basement meeting of 130 people that he had decided to get rid of the building, but would agree to sell it to the community for \$75,000, so long as they obtained a \$10,000 down payment within 13 days.

The WOW-A-Thon began Dec. 10 and everyone who had ever performed at the WOW Hall was invited. It ran for 24 hours a day for five straight days, featuring local artists of all kinds, including musicians, dancers, poets, mimes, theater and juggling.

Marion Sweeney is a current CCPA board member, but when she was 27 she and her roommate took donations at the door. "I just remember staying up day and night, hounding people," she says, laughing. "Our focus was to get people to feel ownership of the hall." Despite the building's age, dilapidation and the amount of work and money it would take to fix it, Kashin says that "Saving it was important, and everybody that was down here at the hall at the time knew that. And that's why they were here."

The festival raised \$12,000 and the WOW Hall was saved.

"Then only a few years later, they paid off the mortgage. And so we own the building free and clear, plus the parking lot behind," says CCPA Executive Director Patrick Hosefield. Since 1975, the nonprofit's primary purpose has been to operate and maintain the WOW Hall building.

"People really do form a connection with this building," says CCPA membership coordinator David Farris. "It's been true throughout its history. You spend time here, it gets in your blood a little bit."

Though things have changed over half a century, Farris says, "it's still the same people that are running it. People who started out as volunteers, people that grew up coming here. It's a part of their lives. Those are still the people that run it."

It is this spirit that is driving WOW-A-Thon II. Williams says that though this festival is not a marathon 120-hour Hail Mary, it intends to honor the original festival and the WOW Hall's legacy. "We have a storytelling hour. We're hoping community members come out and share their favorite WOW Hall memories. We're also collecting a smattering of videos from artists that who performed here over the years that we plan on displaying on the screen in between acts," he says.

"In some ways it's a retrospective, while also honoring what we are now, where we're going and where we intend to go," Williams continues. "We're here to stay."

WOW-A-Thon II is 5 pm Friday, Dec. 5, and Saturday, Dec. 6, at WOW Hall, 291 West 8th Avenue. Doors 4 pm. Tickets are \$15 general admission, \$25 two-day pass and are available at WowHall.org. Free to CCPA members.

'Oh, What a Beautiful Morning'

The sounds of Oklahoma! echo through The Shedd

BY DOROTHY VELASCO

Let's say you happen to hear the first five words of the song, "Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin'." What are you hearing and who is singing? Answer: The opening song in one of America's most loved and most memorable musicals: *Oklahoma!*, sung by a charming cowboy named Curly.

I recently had the pleasure of attending opening night of this musical masterpiece by Richard Rodgers (music) and Oscar Hammerstein II (book and lyrics) presented by Shedd Theatricals in the Jaqua Concert Hall. For me, and what appeared to be a large number of thoroughly delighted audience members, the show offered us a joyful, humorous slice of life touting the development of our burgeoning nation as seen through the eyes of a handful of young people seeking romance.

The action is set a few years before 1907, when Oklahoma was granted statehood. The relocation of Native Americans on reservations is not mentioned in the show as a factor that enabled a land grab. Because the musical opened on Broadway in 1943 during World War II, it is likely that the authors and producers didn't want to highlight any negative views of the USA.

In any case, *Oklahoma!* was an instant hit that surprised its investors. The record-breaking run lasted for 2,248 performances (five years and nine months). A national company toured the country for 10 years, reaching more than 10 million spectators. Other companies toured abroad, some giving special performances to the armed forces during World War II.

What made *Oklahoma!* so special is that it was considered the first musical to be totally intertwined, meaning that the songs and dances were vital parts of the story and couldn't be replaced by hit songs used in previous shows that were loosely strung together like variety shows.

The Shedd production, directed by Ron Daum, with music direction and conducting by Robert Ashens, and choreographer Kenady Conforth, features well-trained actors-singers-dancers representing a wide range of ages. The older folks can kick up a storm, and the younger ones, some of them still in high school, are surprisingly versatile.

Curly, as played by Esack Grueskin, is a good guy through and through. He sings beautifully, dances, fights with a threatening opponent and tenderly woos his girl, Laurey, played by lovely Alexis Wood. Her confusion about trying to do the right thing is quite convincing.



Kara Churchill as Aunt Eller gives her character a somewhat bawdy sense of humor that goes over well with farmers and cowmen alike. She's good at smoothing out their rivalry without antagonizing them. Owen Colley is excellent as Jud Fry, the mentally unstable farm hand who is fixated on Laurey. He represents a true danger for Curly and with his deep baritone voice and strong build he is seriously frightening. However, when Curly and Jud sing "Pore Jud is Daid" the tone turns to dark humor.

Lively Hanna Foshay as Ado Annie frequently steals the show with her man-crazy shenanigans. She hasn't yet discovered everything about sex, but she sure wants to become well-informed. Two beaux pursue her. One, faithful Will Parker, likably played by Ian Pedroza, is adept at rodeo roping. A new interest, Ali Hakim, a Persian traveling peddler, is hilarious as played by Nehemiah Nance.

Cloud Pemble is solid as Ado Annie's father, an important citizen who is a judge and peacemaker between the farmers and cowmen, as shown in his song, "The Farmer and The Cowman." Other cast members, all of them excellent, are Matt Leach, John Breen, Charlie Stanford, Mathew Michaels, Spencer Meiners, Nate Rosenfeld, Rowan Kidder, Heidi Turnquist, Emma Ditmore, Adeline Daggett, Bailey Ubel and Kaycee Taylor.

There are far too many famous songs to mention all of them, but here are a few:

"The Surrey with the Fringe on Top," "Kansas City," "I Cain't Say No!," "People Will Say We're in Love," "All Er Nuthin'," and of course "Oklahoma!"

Oklahoma! is playing at Jaqua Concert Hall in The Shedd through Dec. 14, including Sunday matinees at 3 pm, Dec. 7 and 14. Call 541-434-7000 for tickets and information.

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SAVAGE Love

Quickies

BY DAN SAVAGE

Is Donald Trump a closeted gay man? I can't think of anything that screams "secretly gay" louder than building a golden ballroom.

Donald Trump has been married to three different women (two of whom were immigrants), he's been accused of sexual harassment and assault by dozens of women, and he was found liable — by a jury of his peers — for sexually abusing E. Jean Carroll. I don't care if his ballroom has gilded slings, gilded lube dispensers and gilded bottoms, that man is not one of mine.

You've talked about how urine is sterile but also switched to calling it "mostly" sterile. Is it safe to use in a neti pot?

Sterile is binary — something either is or isn't sterile (sterile is not a spectrum!) — so it wouldn't be accurate to describe urine as "mostly sterile." My bad. That said, urine does have fewer bacteria than a lot of other things we ingest, from a Costco hot dog to the ass of a hot stranger. But seeing as it isn't safe to use tap water in a neti pot — at least not in Florida — it's probably not a great idea to use urine in one.

Do any women actually love anal sex?

Some do, most don't. Adjust your expectations accordingly.

New partner wants to explore shibari. I'm down, but it feels like a huge undertaking in terms of learning. There are a ton of resources out there, but I have no idea what sites are good. Any recommendations?

"Learning from other experienced ropers in person is invaluable, and some kind of formal rope instruction is available in most big cities," said RopeSweatAndTears, an incredibly talented gay Latine roper based in Seattle. If you don't live in a city where you can find an in-person class, RSAT recommends the book *Tie Me Up: The Complete Guide to Bondage* by Stephen Niederwieser and online

bondage tutorials from The Duchy and Shibari Study. "Like with any new skill, rope bondage takes practice, persistence, and patience," said RSAT. "Start with basic and simple ties and gradually increase complexity as your skill grows."

RopeSweatAndTears is the co-founder of RopeLab Seattle. Follow him on Instagram @Rope.Sweat.And.Tears.

Is it true that all non-asexual shy women are subs sexually? I like the idea of dating a cute shy woman, but for reasons of my own, I wouldn't want to be a dom. Also: Am I the only non-asexual person in the world who is not interested in domination and submission?

It's not true that all "non-asexual" women — shy or otherwise — are subs. And I don't know how you got the impression that you're the only "non-asexual person" in the world who prefers vanilla sex, but you can rest assured: your majority-tarian sexual preferences are shared by the majority.

What are your ideas for hosting a play party for the first time?

Everything I know about hosting play parties I learned from *The Sex Party Handbook: Your Ultimate Guide to the World of Orgies, Sex Clubs and More (and How to Host Your Own)* by Ali Bushell.

P.S. Ali Bushell shared his tips for hosting sex parties on Episode 890 of the Savage Lovecast.

How do I convince people to actually NOT buy me gifts for Christmas?!? I just want time with them!

Let people enjoy things — and some people really enjoy getting other people gifts, even (or especially) people who've asked them not to get them gifts.

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NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS:

Probate proceedings in the Estate of George Attout Wickes, Deceased, are now pending in the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Lane County, Case No. 25PB09436, and Louise Van Winkle Hutchings Westling has been appointed Personal Representative of the estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present the same, with proper vouchers, to the Personal Representative, c/o Gleaves Swearingen LLP, Attorneys at Law, 975 Oak Street, Suite 800, Eugene, OR 97401, within 4 months from the date of the first publication of this notice or such claims may be barred. NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN to all persons whose rights may be affected by the above-entitled proceedings that additional information may be obtained from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative or the attorneys for the Personal Representative. Dated this 4th day of December, 2025.

IN COMPLIANT THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY. NORTH COAST ELECTRIC COMPANY, a Washington corporation; Plaintiff, v. CONTRACTOR'S ELECTRIC, LLC, and Oregon limited liability company; INSPIRED SENIOR LIVING OF CRESWELL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; TRUSTEES OF THE: CASCADE PENSION TRUST; I.B.E.W. DISTRICT NO. 9 PENSION PLAN; HARRISON ELECTRICAL WORKERS TRUST FUND; NATIONAL ELECTRICAL BENEFIT FUND; AND THE CENTRAL INSIDE ELECTRICAL JOINT APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINING TRUST FUN; STEVEN A. LEUCK; REXEL USA, INC., a Delaware corporation, dba PLATT ELECTRIC SUPPLY; 4J CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, INC., a California corporation; 4JCON, LLC, a California limited liability company; VICTORY BUILDERS, INC., an Oregon corporation; PATRIC J. O'CONNER, JR. dba PATRICK J. O'CONNOR LANDSCAPE CO.; Defendants. TRUSTEES OF THE: CASCADE PENSION TRUST; I.B.E.W. DISTRICT NO. 9 PENSION PLAN; HARRISON ELECTRICAL WORKERS TRUST FUND; NATIONAL ELECTRICAL BENEFIT FUND; AND THE CENTRAL INSIDE ELECTRICAL JOINT APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINING TRUST FUND; Third Party Plaintiff, v. DANIEL P. VAN ACKER dba MARS CONSTRUCTION; HUMBLE CONSTRUCTION LLC; ARMIGER ACOUSTICAL & DRYWALL INC.; THIRD GENERATION PAINTING CO.; 4 POINT ELECTRIC LLC; and JAR VENTURES, INC. dba SIGNARAMA; Third Party Defendants. TO: DEFENDANTS OF CONTRACTOR'S ELECTRIC, LLC AND STEVEN A. LEUCK. IN

THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON: You are hereby required to appear and defend the Complaint filed against you in the above case within thirty days after the first date of the publication of this summons, and if you fail to appear and defend, the Plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in the Complaint. The object of the Complaint and the demand for relief are: The Plaintiff seeks breach of contract, foreclosure of lien claim, quantum meruit, and action on personal guarantee for unpaid electrical materials as described in the Complaint in the principal amount of \$269,254.64, plus interest, attorney's fees, and costs. NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY! You must "appear" in this case or the other side will win automatically. To "appear" you must file with the court a legal paper called a "motion" or "answer." The "motion" or "answer" must be given to the court clerk or administrator within 30 days of the date of first publication specified herein along with the required filing fee. If you need help in finding an attorney, you may call the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service at (503) 684-3763 or toll-free in Oregon at (800) 452-7636. HERSHER HUNTER, LLP. By Nancy K. Cary, OSB 902254 ncary@hersherhunter.com Of Attorneys for Plaintiff P.O. Box 1475 Eugene, Oregon 97440. Telephone: (541) 686-8511. First Publication Date: December 4th, 2025.

Sale of Abandoned Manufactured Home:

One (1) 1969 BROADMORE manufactured dwelling, Plate number X124273, Home identification number 197776, Manufacturer's serial number(s) S1424, with contents (if any) has been abandoned by Welrose F. Hagen. Said property is located at 2150 Laura St, Spc 23, Springfield, OR 97477. Said dwelling shall be sold by private bidding, with sealed bids, and "as is" (there is no warranty relating to title, possession, quiet enjoyment or the like). Bids must be for a specific stated dollar figure and must be delivered to Monta Loma MHC, LLC dba Monta Loma Estates at 2150 Laura St, #110 - Office, Springfield, OR 97477, no later than 10am on the 9th day of December, 2025. Upon confirmation of the winning bid, the purchaser must promptly tender full payment in secured funds, only; money order, wire transfer, or cashiers' check and promptly remove the dwelling from the manufactured home park unless a storage agreement can be promptly negotiated between the successful bidder and the Park. Future owner occupancy of the dwelling onsite would require successful application for tenancy, screening, and entry into a written rental agreement, none of which will be considered until after the sale is complete. This auction may be canceled at any time prior to the start of bidding without notice. For additional information, or to ask questions, please contact Richard Morris, Park Manager, at 541-747-8931.

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ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S

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FREE WILL Astrology WEEK OF DEC. 4 BY ROB BREZSNY

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Here are two of your birthrights as an Aries: to be the spark that ignites the fire and the trailblazer who doesn't wait for permission. I invite you to embody both of those roles to the max in the coming weeks. But keep these caveats in mind: Your flame should provide light and warmth but not rouse scorching agitation. Your intention should be to lead the way, not stir up drama or demand attention. Be bold and innovative, my dear, but always with rigorous integrity. Be sensitive and receptive as you unleash your gorgeous courage. In my vision of your future, you're the wise guide who inspires and includes, who innovates and reflects. You fight for interdependence, not dominance.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Here's a key theme: microdoses of courage. You don't need to summon splashy acts of epic heroism. Subtle rebellions against numbness and ignorance may be all that's required. Your understated superpowers will be tactful surges of honesty and gentle interventions in challenging transitions. So be brave in ways that feel manageable, Taurus. Don't push yourself to be a fearless warrior. The trembling truth-teller is your best role model. As an experiment to get started, say yes to two things that make you nervous but don't terrify you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Your inner ear contains three canals filled with fluid. They act like gyroscopes, telling you which way is up, how fast you're moving, and when to stop. Your ability to maintain your balance depends on their loyal service. Without them, you couldn't orient yourself in space. Moral of the story: You stabilize yourself through constant adjustment. Let's make this a metaphor for your current assignment. Your ability to remain poised, centered, and grounded will require ongoing adaptations. It won't work to remain still and fixed. You will have to keep calibrating and adapting.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Let's extol the value of productive confusion: the disorienting state when your old maps no longer match the territory. Your beloved certainties shudder and dissipate, and you don't know what you don't know. This isn't a failure of understanding, but the ripe precondition for a breakthrough. The caterpillar doesn't smoothly or instantly transition into a butterfly. First it dissolves into chaotic goo and simmers there for a while. Conclusion: Stay in the not-knowing a little longer.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Coffee from Java, orchids from Iceland, and grapes from Vesuvius, Italy: What do these bounties have in common? They flourish in the extra fertile soil created by volcanic eruptions. The molten lava that initially leveled everything in its path later cooled and became a repository of rich nutrients. I expect a milder version of this theme for you, Leo. Events and energies that at first cause disruption will eventually become vitalizing and even healing. Challenges will lead to nourishment.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Gardeners in Japan spend years training bonsai trees to grow into elegant shapes. The process requires extraordinary patience, close listening and an intimate relationship with an ever-changing life form. I invite you to approach your current projects with this mindset. You may feel tempted to expedite the growth that's unfolding. You might feel pressure to "complete" or "optimize." But the flourishing of your work depends on subtle attunement, not brute progress. Pay tender attention to what wants to emerge slowly. Tend to it with care. Time is your collaborator, not your enemy. You're weaving lasting beauty.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The Swedish concept of *lagom* means "not too much, not too little, but just right." It suggests that the best option may be in the middle rather than in the extremes. Yes, sometimes that means an uneasy compromise. But more often, it's how the power and virtue come fully alive and thrive. Many people don't like this fact of life. They are fixated on the delusion that more is always better. In the coming weeks, Libra, I invite you to be a connoisseur of lagom. To do it right, you may have to strenuously resist peer pressure and groupthink.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): In Bangkok markets, elderly women sell caged birds. Why? For the specific purpose of releasing them. Those who buy a captive sparrow or dove immediately open the cage door and let the creature fly away in a symbolic gesture of compassion and spiritual aspiration. It's a Buddhist act believed to bring good karma to the person who sets the bird free. I invite you to imagine yourself performing this sacrament, Scorpio, or perhaps conducting an actual ritual with the equivalent purpose. Now is a fun and fertile time to liberate an outdated belief, a conversation you keep replaying, or a version of yourself that's no longer relevant. Take your cue from the signs that appear in the Bangkok market: *Letting go is a form of prayer.*

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): The world's oldest known musical composition is the Hurrian Hymn No. 6. It was discovered etched on clay tablets in Syria, dating back to 1400 BCE. When finally decoded and performed, it revealed harmonies that still resonate with modern listeners. Your projects in the coming months could share this timeless quality, Sagittarius. You will have an enhanced power to bridge your past and your future. A possibility you've been nurturing for months or even years may finally ripen into beautiful completion. Watch for opportunities to synergize tradition with innovative novelty or deep-rooted marvels with sweet, breezy forms of expression.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): I'm taking a risk here by urging you cautious Capricorns to at least flirt with the Finnish tradition of drinking alcohol at home alone in your underwear with no intention of going out. I'm certainly not encouraging you to get so hammered that you can't safely wander outdoors. My point is to give yourself permission to celebrate your amazing, mysterious, beautiful life with a bout of utterly uninhibited relaxation and totally indulgent contentment. I authorize you to be loose and free and even slightly irresponsible. Let your private pleasures reign supreme.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): In the Quechua language, the word *ayllu* refers to a kinship system not just of people, but of animals, ancestors, dreams and nature. To be aligned with one's ayllu is to live in reciprocity, in the ongoing exchange of care and meaning among the entire web of life. "We belong to what we love," the Quechua elders say. Aquarius, I believe you're being asked to focus on your ayllu. Who or what comprises your circle of belonging? Which beings, places and unseen presences help weave the pattern of your treasured destiny? Whom do you create for — not as an audience, but as kin who receive and answer your song? As you nourish your connections in the coming weeks, pay special attention to those who respect your idiosyncrasies. It's not your birthright to simply fit in. Your utter uniqueness is one of your greatest gifts, and it's your sacred duty to give it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): In Yoruba cosmology, the divine spirit Oshun presides over rivers, love, beauty and sweet water. But her sweetness isn't a weakness. It's a sublime power, as evidenced by how her waters once restored life to the barren earth when every other force had failed. You Pisceans are now channeling extra strong currents of Oshun energy. Your tenderness is magnetic. Your imaginative flourishes are as valuable as gold. And your love, when rooted in your sovereign self-respect, is healing. But don't let your nurturing be exploited. Choose wisely where you share your bounty. The right people will honor your flow, not judge it or try to change it. Your duty is to be uninhibitedly yourself and let your lyrical truths ripple freely.

Homework: Could you heal someone else by teaching what healed you?
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Jonesin' Crossword BY MATT JONES

"All In Order" – at least the first 12.

Across

- Mag with quizzes
- Honey structure
- Obsolete tape players
- Cymbals with a foot pedal
- Largest oceanic dolphin
- "Hi" on the high seas
- Certain Scottish girl's lessons with designer Bill?
- Worm work?
- Feeling awful
- Hits the mall
- Long shocker
- Gilbert & Sullivan's "Princess ____"
- Equalize
- Removes moisture from a Great Lake's fast-food side?
- "Hamilton" creator ____-Manuel Miranda

- Mooch in the "Mutts" comic, e.g.
- Org. that looks over Heat and Thunder
- Cereal holders
- Ruin
- Eleanor in a Beatles song
- Actress de Armas
- Gained
- Granola bit
- Reached the temperature of some Greek vowels?
- The most recent Bond
- "____ be a pleasure!"
- Former "All Things Considered" co-host Shapiro
- Catches, as fly balls
- Raw material
- Bowie rock genre
- Nebulous area between a "Simpsons" bully and the

- late MMA fighter Slice?
- Stressed type (abbr.)
- Jacob's twin brother, in the Bible
- Boston NHLer
- It may be dominant
- "Atlas Shrugged" author
- Carbonated beverages

Down

- Went after
- More obsequious
- "Okay to proceed?"
- Zorro accessory
- Post-fourth qtr. periods
- Neck piece
- Type of exam
- Hosts
- Rock band member
- "Love! ____! Compassion!" (Terrence McNally play-turned-film)
- Lip issue
- "Friends" friend
- Part of PBS, for short
- 46th U.S. President
- One who gets to cooking
- Egyptian goddess of fertility
- Shred
- Letter-shaped pipe
- Words of resignation
- Recede
- For example
- Do some grocery work
- Sean ____ Lennon
- Sentinel
- "Switched-On Bach" synthesizer
- Night visit to the fridge
- Lance of the O.J. Trial
- Feline feeler
- ____ Bi-Flex (immune support supplement brand)
- Fine for farming
- Tapioca alternative
- 1997 basketball film that brought on sequels
- Collection of Jewish laws
- "Lawrence of ____" (1962 epic)
- Carly and Paul, for two
- Locale
- Qatar neighbor
- Copter ancestor
- Dublin dance
- "This ____ test"
- Scale amts.

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GETWISE	OPIATES	
IAN	FOOTBATH	
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AMES	NEURON	TRA
BUST	CRESS	TEEN

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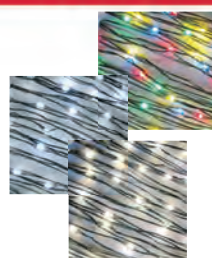


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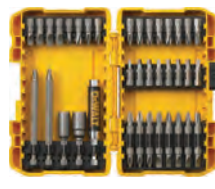


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